



June 4, 2008

Mr. Richard Rothman

[REDACTED]  
San Francisco, CA 94103

Dear Mr. Rothman,

This letter is in response to the comment form you submitted to our Department on May 16, 2008 regarding the concerns you had over the Voter Information Pamphlet that is sent to all registered voters in the City & County of San Francisco. We apologize for not responding to your concerns sooner.

On the comment form you submitted, you stated you felt it would be best for the Department to supply voters with one Voter Information Pamphlet per household rather than one pamphlet per voter. While the Department greatly values your suggestion and would like to be able to reduce the excess paper and costs involved with producing the pamphlets as much as possible we cannot do so because we must abide by both the Municipal Elections Code (MEC) and the California Elections Codes (CEC) that state each registered voter must receive a pamphlet of their own.

Just so you have a better idea of the code sections I am referring to I have included two sections from the MEC and the CEC. Part of Municipal Elections Code § 500 states the following:

*"The voter information pamphlet shall be mailed to each registered San Francisco voter at least 29 days prior to each election."*

and part of California Elections Code § 13307 (4) (b) states:

*"The elections official shall send to each voter, together with the sample ballot, a voter's pamphlet which contains the written statements of each candidate that is prepared pursuant to this section."*

If you are at all interested in further researching either the MEC or CEC, please visit [www.Municicode.com](http://www.Municicode.com) or [www.leginfo.ca.gov/calaw.html](http://www.leginfo.ca.gov/calaw.html). You are also more than welcome to submit a letter to the Board of Supervisors or the Secretary of State's office to express your concerns with the distribution of the Voter Information Pamphlet. Letters from concerned citizens may serve as an example of things that could potentially be changed within state or local laws.