Lawmakers could change rules to save counties with special elections

Publisher's note: This editorial is from the Sept. 4, 2010, Sacramento Bee.

California's legislators talk a good game about saving taxpayer money. But handed a common-sense chance to do just that, they have completely flubbed it.

The secretary of state's office, the California Association of Counties and county officials could not find a single lawmaker — not one — willing to step forward and carry legislation to allow mail-only balloting for a Jan. 4 special election in the 1st Senate District.

With minimal impact on voters, that change could save the dozen cash-strapped counties in the district hundreds of thousands of dollars, including an estimated \$250,000 in Sacramento County and \$55,000 in El Dorado County.

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