**State of California**

**Health and Human Services Agency**

**Department of Rehabilitation (DOR)**

## Rules Meeting

## Friday, September 8, 2023

1:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.

**In attendance**:

Rules members (by Zoom): Harry Begian, Paul Patche, Jerry Gann, Julie Wakamoto

DOR staff (by Zoom): Michael Thomas, Greg Lang, Kelly Snow, Susanna Bishop, Luis Rodriguez, John Galicinao, Marc Leyva, Jennifer Wilbon

Members of the Public: Steve Alford

**Welcome and Introductions**

Harry Begian welcomed attendees and conducted roll call. Members of the committee discussed the election regulation procedures, issues of concerns, and response from the legal department.

Committee members comments and questions

* Discussed concerns with ballots and nominations within the election process.
* Would like to modify the election process.
* Some formats are outdated and the language should be updated.
* The election has two parts, the nomination process and sending the ballots.
* The main problem is voting, there is no problem with the nomination process.
* Transparency is an important issue.
* There are websites that can do the balloting process.
* Would like to talk about the 50-mile route at a future meeting.
* Would like to discuss the selection process at a future meeting.

Department comments and questions

* Shared what other states do when it comes to voting. Not many do electronic. Some states vote in-person, once a year, but they are smaller states and have less vendors.
* Members to discuss ideas and send them to DOR attorney, Greg. He will then start working on the language.
* Discussed paper ballots.
* If email is going to be a method, the department can have a specific email address.
* Can remove some language and update regulations as they are outdated. Only need to update the election section, do not need to update all BEP regulations.
* Most public documents are public records.
* Vendors need to make sure that the department has updated contact information.

Meeting Adjourned: 2:18 p.m.