From: Melissa Inglis
To: Rep. Mike Clampitt
Subject: Insure Election Integrity in NC
Date: Friday, January 15, 2021 02:58:18 PM

Dear Representative Clampitt,

After watching the irregularities and fraud that took place in the November election I am writing to ask you to take measures to ensure that our future elections are legitimate. We have spent too many years ignoring known voter fraud in the city centers of our state. If NC Republicans are serious about stopping voter fraud here is what they must do:

1. Make absentee voting rare again.

Absentee ballots invite fraud and make enforcement impossible. Mail in votes have been banned or sharply restricted in many other democracies. In France, postal voting has been banned for all except those living overseas. Finland also restricts mail-in votes to those outside the country. Japan requires a doctor's certification. These countries know that mail in ballots are a prescription for fraud.

In 2005, the Jimmy Carter-chaired Commission on Federal Election Reform warned that absentee ballots posed by far the biggest danger to America's electoral integrity, it stated: "Citizens who vote at home, at nursing homes, at the workplace, or in church are more susceptible to pressure, overt and subtle, or to intimidation."

Absentee ballots should be restricted to those working overseas, those working critical jobs on election day (a 12-hour hospital shift), or those who are genuinely disabled. All others should be expected to vote in person at a polling place.

2. Get rid of electronic voting.

Machines can be hacked, programmed incorrectly or simply malfunction, all without detection. The U.K., the Netherlands and Germany all use paper ballots that are hand counted. Americans deserve to have confidence that their votes will not be invalidated by fraud. NC ballots should be cast on paper, and they should be counted by hand with auditors scrutinizing to prevent fraud. This system is easy to police, easy to understand, can be done quickly, and will restore the public's trust.

3. Count the vote immediately.

This year DNC lawyers poured into NC and sued to change the election laws at the last minute to accept ballots up to 9 days after the election. This was unconscionable and an obvious vehicle for fraud. Voters casting absentee ballots have ample time to mail in their vote. It is fair to expect them to have their vote returned by the date of the election. If they cannot do that, their vote should not count.

NC should look to Florida as a guide, where absentee ballots must be returned by 7 pm on election night, period. The state requires a matching signature for mail-in ballots. Ballots are opened and verified early before being stored securely, and **critically, they are counted first**, meaning they can never be used to play "catch-up" against a surprising election-night deficit. Florida had plenty of mail-in and early votes, but had no difficulty counting most ballots by midnight. That performance should be the norm everywhere.

Republicans should insist on a process where at least 99 percent of votes are tallied within six hours of polls closing. The faster votes are counted, the harder it is to smuggle fraudulent ballots into the process, and the more likely the public itself is to regard the process as legitimate. Faster counting also limits fraud in another way: It requires more personnel, causing each individual person to handle fewer ballots.

Benjamin Franklin famously stated that America is a 'republic if you can keep it'. If millions of people believe their legal vote has and will be stolen, then our representative government will be an illusion and our republic will cease to exist. The voters of NC deserve a state government that will do everything in its power to ensure that what happened in 2020 never happens again. When the stakes are this high, incompetence and lack of preparation are complicity. Millions of NC voters will be watching the Republican response to this election debacle very carefully, please do the right thing and secure our elections.

Regards,

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Sent from my iPad