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One Hundred Seventeenth
Congress of the United States
House of Representatives

COMMITTEE ON HOUSE ADMINISTRATION

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July 15, 2022

Sandra Merlino
County Clerk
Nye County
P.O. Box 1031
Tonopah, Nevada 89049

Dear Ms. Merlino:

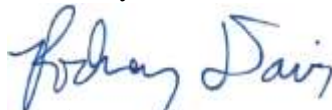
As Ranking Member of the Committee on House Administration, which has broad oversight of our nation's federal elections, I write today to express my concern about a recent report that incorrect ballots were delivered to precincts 17 and 22, which each received the other's ballots. I understand that a special election for county commissioner in each precinct may now be required to remedy this error.

America's decentralized elections system is the best in the world, and Republicans are committed to ensuring all eligible voters who want to participate can cast ballots and have those ballots counted according to law. Since last Congress, I have met with Secretaries of State, Lt. Governors, and local election administrators from states as wide-ranging as Alaska, Iowa, and New York, among others, to learn about and promote the many first-rate examples of excellence in election administration across the country. Unfortunately, rather than add to those efforts, situations like this one in Nye County have the potential to do real damage to voter confidence in our election systems and outcomes at a time when we can least afford it.

In the interest of ensuring that voter confidence in our elections processes and outcomes is protected in the next federal election, please respond with an explanation of how the precincts' ballots were swapped. Please also include a detailed description of the procedural or regulatory changes you will make to ensure this does not recur in the future.

I look forward to your response. Please send your response and any questions you may have by August 5, 2022, to Caleb Hays, General Counsel and Deputy Staff Director, at Caleb.Hays@mail.house.gov.

Sincerely,



Rodney Davis
Ranking Member
Committee on House Administration