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One Hundred Seventeenth
Congress of the United States
House of Representatives

COMMITTEE ON HOUSE ADMINISTRATION

1309 LONGWORTH HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515-6157
202-225-2061 | CHA.HOUSE.GOV

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July 11, 2022

Dele Lowman Smith
Chair
Board of Registration & Elections
DeKalb County, Georgia
1300 Commerce Drive
Decatur, GA 30030

Dear Chair Smith:

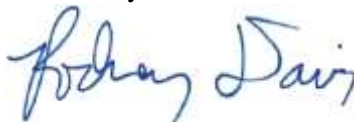
As Ranking Member of the U.S. House of Representatives Committee on House Administration, which has broad oversight of our nation's federal elections, I write today to express my concern about a recent report that a hand recount revealed that the initial machine tabulation inaccurately counted several thousand ballots, leading to official results drastically different from the earlier-reported unofficial results.

America's decentralized elections system is the best in the world, and Republicans are committed to ensuring all eligible voters who want to participate are able to 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 Dekalb County 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 individuals eligible to vote have the opportunity to do so and that all lawful ballots are counted accurately in the next federal election, please respond with an explanation of Dekalb County's ballot counting and machine tabulator programming and testing process and explain why the machine-tabulated vote totals were so inaccurate. Please also share any procedural or regulatory changes you will make to ensure accurate vote totals are reported for the upcoming November election.

I look forward to your response. Please send your response and any questions you may have by August 8, 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

CC: Nancy Jester, Board of Registration & Elections
Anthony Lewis, Board of Registration & Elections
Susan Motter, Board of Registration & Elections
Karli Swift, Board of Registration & Elections