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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
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MINORITY STAFF DIRECTOR

July 15, 2022

Christa L. Miller
Chief Registrar/Chief Clerk of Elections
Board of Elections
150 N Queen St.
Suite 117
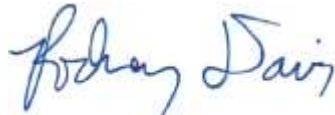Lancaster, PA 17603

Dear Chief Registrar Miller:

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 the nearly 16,000 mail-in ballots that had a coding error, which required more than 50 volunteers and county officials to re-mark and count these ballots, significantly delaying election results.[1]

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 Lancaster 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 individuals eligible to vote have the opportunity to do so and that results are available without delay in the upcoming federal election, please respond with an explanation of how these ballots came to have a coding error and what remedies were taken to address the problem. Please also state whether the printing vendor used for the 2022 primary was the same as the one used in the 2018 election. If so, please explain why. Finally, please share any procedural or regulatory changes you will make to ensure similar incidents do not recur.

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

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[1] Amber Gerard, *Votes still being tallied in Lancaster County after mail-in ballot printing error,* WGAL News 8 (May 18, 2022) https://www.wgal.com/article/mail-in-ballot-printing-error-discovered-in-lancaster-county/40024151#