

BRYAN STEIL, WISCONSIN
CHAIRMAN

BARRY LOUDERMILK, GEORGIA
H. MORGAN GRIFFITH, VIRGINIA
GREGORY F. MURPHY, NORTH CAROLINA
STEPHANIE I. BICE, OKLAHOMA
MIKE CAREY, OHIO
ANTHONY D'ESPOSITO, NEW YORK
LAUREL M. LEE, FLORIDA

MICHAEL PLATT
STAFF DIRECTOR

One Hundred Eighteenth
Congress of the United States
House of Representatives

COMMITTEE ON HOUSE ADMINISTRATION
1309 LONGWORTH HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20515-6157
(202) 225-8281 | CHA.HOUSE.GOV

JOSEPH D. MORELLE, NEW YORK
RANKING MINORITY MEMBER

TERRI A. SEWELL, ALABAMA
DEREK KILMER, WASHINGTON
NORMA J. TORRES, CALIFORNIA

JAMIE FLEET
MINORITY STAFF DIRECTOR

December 12, 2023

Anthony Perlatti
Director
Cuyahoga County Board of Elections
2925 Euclid Avenue
Cleveland, OH 44115

Anthony Kaloger
Deputy Director
Cuyahoga County Board of Elections
2925 Euclid Avenue
Cleveland, OH 44115

Henry Curtis, IV
Board Chairman
Cuyahoga County Board of Elections
2925 Euclid Avenue
Cleveland, OH 44115

Inajo Davis Chappel
Board Member
Cuyahoga County Board of Elections
2925 Euclid Avenue
Cleveland, OH 44115

Lisa Stickan
Board Member
Cuyahoga County Board of Elections
2925 Euclid Avenue
Cleveland, OH 44115

Terence McCafferty
Board Member
Cuyahoga County Board of Elections
2925 Euclid Avenue
Cleveland, OH 44115

Dear Cuyahoga County Board of Elections Staff and Members:

I serve as Chairman of the U.S. House of Representatives Committee on House Administration (“Committee”) which has broad oversight over our nation’s federal elections.¹ I am aware of a recent report that 903 votes were *not* counted on election night allegedly because of damage of a USB memory stick failure.² Thankfully, it appears that this issue was uncovered during the post-election ballot audit and that the applicable ballots will be counted when the official results are certified on November 28th.³

Post-election audits play an important role in promoting voter confidence and ensuring faith in our nation’s elections, and the Committee is encouraged that Ohio’s check-and-balance system appears strong.

For Americans to have confidence in our elections, they do not need a zero-mistake system but instead, one where mistakes are identified and corrected. That’s why I have introduced the American Confidence in Elections Act⁴

¹ Rules of the United States House of Representatives, Rule X, Clause 1(k)(12), <https://rules.house.gov/sites/republicans.rules118.house.gov/files/documents/Rules%20and%20Resources/118- House-Rules-Clerk.pdf>.

² Dave DeNatale, *Audit shows over 900 ballots did not get counted at Bay Village polling location on election night*, WKYC Studios (Nov. 15, 2023), <https://www.wkyc.com/article/news/politics/elections/audit-over-900-ballots-not-counted-bay-village-polling-location-election-night/95-abd5039c-23a7-453d-a92c-0f099ab486a9>.

³ *Id.*

⁴ American Confidence in Elections Act, H.R. 4563, 118th Cong. § 1 (2023).

that explicitly allows federal Help America Vote Act funds⁵ to be spent on post-election audits like the one conducted following this election. These audits are most effective when they are completed before candidates lose the right to challenge the results of the election under state law, as looks to be the case here.

Again, congratulations on these successful efforts to ensure that all lawful ballots are counted according to law.

Please direct all correspondence and any questions you might have to Caleb Hays, General Counsel and Deputy Staff Director, at Caleb.Hays@mail.house.gov. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Bryan Steil
Chairman
Committee on House Administration



Laurel M. Lee
Chair, Subcommittee on Elections
Committee on House Administration

BGS/ad

⁵ 52 U.S.C. § 21001(b).