

Andrea Gyger

From: Christopher Jenner [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, June 21, 2019 4:39 PM
To: SoS Rulemaking
Subject: Colorado Secretary of State's invitation to comment on election rulemaking

Dear Secretary of State Griswold:

I am an overseas elector, and I am concerned that my ballot may not have always been counted and that overseas electors' ballots in general are not being counted efficiently. In addition, I wonder if anything can be done to encourage more voter participation by US citizens living outside the United States.

I have alerted my county clerk and recorder to the fact that I could not see a confirmation that my vote was counted in 2018.

We often hear during the election returns that "they still have to count the overseas absentee ballots." My question is: why don't they count them as they come in? My ballot was in early.

Perhaps this would pertain to proposed rule 7.5.4.

Upon looking into this today, I found a 2016 study by the Federal Voting Assistance Program that estimates there are 2.6 million US citizens living abroad who are eligible to vote. If we were a state, we'd have more voters than 16 of the states, including New Mexico, Hawaii, and Vermont. But according to the study, only 4 percent of those eligible actually voted in 2014. Though that was a midterm election, the number is still alarmingly low. While it may be those citizens' fault for not figuring out how to vote, I think the states and counties ought to do everything they can to inform citizens of their right to vote, and ought to strongly encourage them to do so.

Please consider the importance of the votes of US citizens living outside the United States when making the election rules.

Thank you.
Christopher Jenner