

Cheryl McConnell


June 29, 2021

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JUL 12 2021

**ELECTIONS
CO SECRETARY OF STATE**

Jena Griswold
Secretary of State
1700 Broadway, Suite 550
Denver, Colorado 80290

Dear Secretary of State Griswold,

As a resident of Colorado, I want to thank you for serving as an elected leader in our state and express to you some critical concerns for your consideration.

Your responsibility to appoint the official(s) tasked with overseeing elections in our state is one of the most important decisions in the entire state and our nation. I hope you will ensure that the election official(s) you choose advocate for increased voter participation while ensuring the highest level of integrity with every election. These two goals are not mutually exclusive.

After the 2020 elections, Americans on both sides of the political aisle became increasingly interested in election integrity. I believe this engagement will ultimately benefit our country as more people are active participants in our Constitutional Republic. But amid all of the noise surrounding this vital issue, I want to take the opportunity to encourage you to consider two vital issues as you oversee the appointment of the election official(s).

First, the election official(s) must follow all state election laws. The state legislature is my direct representation for establishing Colorado laws including any changes to our state election process. Please ensure the election official(s) you select uphold and follow the laws the legislature put in place. No pandemic, emergency, or crisis should ever be an excuse to disregard the law. If a change is needed because of such situations, the legislature should convene and pass laws or statutes accordingly. If you or any other election official or judge changes election rules or procedures, independent of the legislature, you diminish Americans' confidence in our election system.

Second, it is imperative that you appoint election official(s) who maintain the statewide voter registration database to keep it both accurate in its information and protected against any cyber-attacks or fraudulent activity. If not already in place, please consider ensuring the voter registration lists are frequently cross-referenced with other state record databases to maintain accurate information on voters. This includes address changes on driver's licenses and any changes made through the department of motor vehicles. It also includes information from the state

correction department, welfare, and public assistance agencies relating to all information such as citizenship status, deaths, or any other piece of information that would impact an individual's eligibility to vote. Federal law entrusts state election officials to keep voter registration records up to date. I also hope you are taking every possible action to protect this valuable database against any cyber-attacks or fraudulent activity - foreign or domestic.

There is nothing more fundamental to preserving freedom than a free, legal, and secure election system. As my elected leader I will be carefully watching your much needed leadership on this issue. I will be praying for you as you serve the people of our state in this crucial role and pray that you take these concerns seriously.

May God Bless You,


Cheryl McConnell