From: Curtis Chong
To: SoS Rulemaking

Subject: [EXTERNAL] Comments on Proposed Rulemaking - Elections Rules

Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 11:17:43 AM

Greetings:

I wish to comment on Proposed Election Rule 7.2.71 (C) which provides that "BEGINNING JULY 1, 2024, NO COUNTY CLERK MAY USE A BALLOT RETURN ENVELOPE WITH A HOLE OR ANY OTHER OPENING."

I am a blind person who lives and votes in Arapahoe County. I have always appreciated that in Arapahoe county, the holes on the back of the ballot return envelope could be used by a blind voter as a tactual indication of where to place his/her signature. Eliminating the holes on the back of the ballot return envelopes used in Arapahoe county would make it impossible for blind voters who want to return their ballots in the mail to independently locate where they should write their signatures unless an alternative tactual indication is provided . I do not know if other counties across Colorado have a similar system, but I do know that there are blind voters in Colorado who still prefer to return their printed ballots in the mail. Eliminate the holes if you must, but please consider adding a provision which would require counties to provide a tactual indication on the ballot return envelopes where the registered voter must sign his/her name. This would be a tremendous benefit to those voters who cannot see where to place their signatures.

Thank you.

Very truly yours,

Curtis Chong