

U.S. House of Representatives
Committee on the Judiciary

Washington, DC 20515-6216

One Hundred Ninth Congress

January 5, 2005

The Honorable Richard Cheney
President of the Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable William H. Frist, M.D.
United States Senate
461 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Harry Reid
United States Senate
528 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable J. Dennis Hastert
House of Representatives
H232 The Capitol
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Tom Delay
House of Representatives
H107 The Capitol
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi
House of Representatives
H204 The Capitol
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Mr. President, Speaker Hastert, Senator Frist, Senator Reid, Ms. Pelosi, Mr. Delay:

We write because we believe there were numerous, serious election irregularities in the recent presidential election, which resulted in a significant disenfranchisement of voters. In particular, the massive and unprecedented extent of irregularities in Ohio raise grave doubts regarding whether it can be said the electors selected on December 13, 2004, were chosen in a manner that conforms to Ohio law, let alone federal requirements and constitutional standards. In this regard, we are attaching for your review and consideration an important and comprehensive Report regarding election law irregularities in Ohio prepared by the House Judiciary Committee Minority Staff.

As a result of these massive irregularities, we believe three important steps must be taken:

First, consistent with the requirements of the United States Constitution concerning the counting of electoral votes by Congress and Federal law implementing these requirements, some of us plan to challenge the presidential electors from the State of Ohio when Congress meets in joint session on January 6 at 1:00 P.M.

Second, Congress should engage in further hearings into the widespread irregularities reported in the recent presidential election. It is clear to us that the problems are serious enough to warrant the appointment of a joint Committee of the House of Representatives and the Senate to investigate and report back to the Members.

Third, Congress needs to enact further voting and election reforms to restore our people's trust in our democracy and to make sure that these wide spread irregularities do not happen again.

There is no more important right in our democracy than the right to vote. We look forward to working with you on a bipartisan basis to strengthen and protect this right.

Sincerely,

John Conyers
Drew Buchanan
Madeline Waters

Pat Sch

Sam Farr
Donald Payne
Alma E. Watson

Elijah E. Cummings

Jeanette Millender-Scott
Mary H. Luers

Stephanie Tubo Jones
Jim M. Amodeo
Lynn C. Woolsey

Ellen H. Tauscher

Chela Fackel
Barbara Lee

Patent Wexler

Joe C. Serrano
Danny L. Davis

cc: Members, U.S. House of Representatives
Members, U.S. Senate

Dennis J. Kucinich

Wm. Lacy Clay

Shirley Jackson Lee
Barney Frank