

Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

COMMITTEE ON HOUSE ADMINISTRATION

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www.house.gov/cha

October 28, 2010

Dear [Chief Election Official],

Our system of elections is so successful because the American people believe that, whether their chosen candidate wins or loses, their vote has been counted and their voice heard. We would all agree that a system of fair and just elections is crucial to the functioning of our political structure, and I know that as Secretary of State you understand our shared responsibilities to ensure that every eligible voter intending to cast a ballot has had the ability to do so. Your commitment to protecting the integrity of our system of elections means that you have undertaken measures to both prevent vote fraud and to deal with any potential allegation of fraud that may come up during the course of the 2010 election.

It is my intent that the Committee on House Administration, as the committee of jurisdiction over Federal elections, will take a much more active role supporting the integrity of federal elections in the next Congress, regardless of who is in power after Nov. 2. With the recent reports of numerous states not complying with federal law to send military and overseas voters their ballots in a timely fashion, questions about the integrity of absentee ballots, and the potential for other voting fraud and error, I ask that you take the time to inform Congress after the election of steps that your state has taken to tackle these important issues. This information will assist our efforts and may be helpful to your colleagues in other states.

Additionally, we hope that you will pass on any complaints that may have arisen in your state during the 2010 election as well as the steps you took to address any problems. In seeking to ascertain the scope and extent of the problem, your input will certainly be a valued addition to the Congressional debate. Thank you for your cooperation and I look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,



Daniel E. Lungren
Ranking Republican Member