



House of Representatives

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STANDING COMMITTEES:
HIGHER EDUCATION
INTERSTATE COOPERATION
BUDGET AND FISCAL AFFAIRS OVERSIGHT

June 11, 2020

Director Kristi Royston and Members of the Gwinnett County Board of Registrations and Elections,

As you all know, June 9, 2020, the General Primary and Nonpartisan Election Day for the State of Georgia got off to an interesting start in Gwinnett County. Conducting an election during a pandemic, while also employing new machines, is no small feat, and it is fair to say that it was inevitable that some issues would arise. Nonetheless, it is our duty, as servant leaders of the community, to ensure that trust and confidence in the voting process is maintained. I believe it is the goal for each and every one of us to see that this happens through efficiency and transparency. It is to this aim, that I am formally requesting the answer to the following questions:

- (a) The Secretary of States MVP page has not updated for several voters that submitted their absentee ballot by dropbox between Friday, June 5, 2020 and Tuesday, June 9, 2020. What process or steps should voters take to find out if their ballots were accepted?
- (b) With a record-setting number of absentee ballots casts for this election, there will undoubtedly be a delay in the ballot counting process. The timeframe of this delay, however, is unclear. What is the expected time frame for all absentee ballots to be counted? As of receipt of this letter, how many ballots remain to be counted?
- (c) Several voters arrived at their polling precincts and were informed that voting equipment had not arrived. These voters were offered provisional ballots. Based on the State Elections Board rule 183-1-12.11, voters should have been issued an "emergency paper ballot." Can you please verify whether voters were given a provisional ballot or an emergency paper ballot?
 - a. If voters were given an emergency paper ballot, why were voters informed that the ballots were provisional?
 - b. If voters were given a provisional ballot, will these ballots be treated as an emergency paper ballot?
 - c. Is it the understanding of the Director and the Board that an emergency paper ballot, as described in this rule, and a provisional ballot are the same type of ballot?



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- (d) How many provisional ballots (and/or emergency paper ballots) were cast on Tuesday, June 9, 2020?
- (e) For this election, when will provisional ballots casts by voters who did not have functional machines at their precinct be counted? Will these ballots need to be cured?
- (f) Will the names of provisional voters be released, as is precedent, so that community organizers can notify individuals that need to go through the curing process? If not, please explain.

Thank you for your time and attention in the matter. The right to vote is the lifeblood of democracy. It is incumbent on all of us that this right be administered justly, fairly, and with full transparency. Due to the time sensitive nature of this request, I kindly request that you please reply within the next business day, and prior to the certification of election results.

Sincerely,

Rep. Jasmine Clark, HD 108

Rep. Sam Park, HD 101

Rep. Gregg Kennard, HD 102

Rep. Donna McLeod, HD 105

Rep. Dewey McClain, HD 100

Rep. Beth Moore, HD 95

Rep. Karen Bennett, HD 94

Rep. Pedro Marin, HD 96