



RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF ELECTION REFORM

November 9th, 2021

WHEREAS the 2020 elections demonstrated how important open, secure, and honest elections are to our republic:

WHEREAS Democrats in many states used COVID-19 as an excuse to make last minute changes through unorthodox methods to election laws in the middle of an election cycle;

WHEREAS the South Carolina Republican Party proved its commitment to defending ballot integrity in South Carolina by going all the way to the US Supreme Court and defeating Democrat lawsuits that sought to use Covid-19 as an excuse to change South Carolina voting laws, helping ensure the most successful election for South Carolina Republicans in over 140 years;

BUT WHEREAS there is a continual need to evaluate and improve our election process and to boost the confidence that voters have in our electoral system;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Beaufort County Republican Party calls on the South Carolina General Assembly to pass legislation that will:

1) Establish well-defined timeframe and scope for the Executive Director to conduct post state-wide election reviews and audits, including but not limited to performing hand recount of paper ballots against reported machine tallies and verifying voter signatures for mail-in ballots in selected precincts;

2) Require that all county boards of voter registrations and elections follow election policies and procedures implemented by the State Election Commission in a uniform manner state-wide, providing consequences to county election officials and county commissions who do not comply and procedures to report fraud and prosecute wrongdoers;

3) Require the State Election Commission to clean up voter registration list on a quarterly basis by cross referencing with ERIC, NCOA, and Social Security Death Master File and other national database, in addition to South Carolina DHEC and DMV;

4) Prohibit the acceptance or the use of any non-governmental, third-party, or private money, grants, or gifts from outside sources to fund election agencies and assist in the administration of an election, including voter registration;

5) Reduce the number of excuses to vote absentee and allow in-person early voting 14 days prior to Election Day;

6) Increase transparency of voting process, including in-person monitoring of all polling locations and adjudication process, (both "early in-person" and "Election Day");

7) Extend current photo voter-ID requirements to mail-in absentee ballots. Such provision should require both the voter and the witness to provide the number from a state-issued photo ID, such as a drivers' license;

8) Limit the number of mail-in absentee ballots that any one individual can witness to not more than two (2);

9) Limit the number of mail-in absentee ballots that any one individual can return to not more than two (2);

10) Ensure that all certified political parties and the General Assembly have legal standing to sue other state officials who make or attempt to make unauthorized changes to state election laws and their application;

11) Limit candidates to appearing on the ballot for a particular office once, not as the nominee of multiple political parties;

12) Require the SEC to procure and maintain VSS and all other election-related systems based on explicit specifications of latest relevant standards and federal guidelines (such as CISA and NIST) that go beyond obsolete EAC guidelines;

13) Prohibit network, internet and wireless connectivity for all equipment other than pollbooks and election management system, which would operate on certified and dedicated networks;

14) Maintain digital logs and images for 22 months after a state-wide election; and

15) Require absentee ballots to be printed on serialized security paper with precinct name and ID

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that such legislation be passed into law prior to the commencement of the 2022 election cycle.