



Dear Secretary of State Barbara Cegavske,

We write to you on behalf of voters and community-led organizations committed to ensuring safe and accessible elections for all Nevadans.

Nevada's Safe, Secure, and Fair Elections

Thanks to you and your staff, Nevada was able to secure a HAVA election security grant and homeland security grant funds that kept Nevada's 2020 elections secure and protected from over 5,800 attempts to breach the Silver State Elections website, according to your office's report at the Advisory Committee on Participatory Democracy meeting. Together, Nevadans worked to accomplish safe and secure elections with record turnout.

Holding Regular Public Meetings

The Advisory Committee on Participatory Democracy held its first meeting of 2021 on Friday, March 26, 2021 — the first in 31 weeks and the first public election meeting other than the legislative committee hearings held by your office. These meetings offer the public a critical opportunity to learn about important voting policies and to have a voice in how elections are run in Nevada. It is inadequate and unrealistic to expect voters to be able to learn and provide meaningful feedback on election planning with only one public opportunity each year. We urge you to hold at least four Advisory Committee on Participatory Democracy meetings a year, or offer other regularly scheduled public opportunities to engage with you and your elections division about past and upcoming elections. At the March 26, 2021, meeting you spoke for less than five minutes giving thanks to your staff and the committee for their service. Nevadans deserve to hear more from you about our elections, including regular and more detailed updates about election planning.

Voting By Mail

Voting by mail is safe and secure. Nearly half of all Nevada voters successfully cast their votes in the 2020 general election using a mailed ballot. Your office must be vigilant about providing voters with accurate information about their options to vote, including voting by mail.

At the Advisory Committee on Participatory Democracy committee meeting, a member of your staff claimed that other states that hold predominantly automatic vote-by-mail elections do not have options for their voters to vote in person. According to the [Washington](#) and [Colorado](#)

Secretary of State's websites, voters have the option to vote by mail or in person. Nevadans deserve to receive accurate information from their Secretary of State's office.

We urge you to avoid sweeping statements about voting by mail, and reassure voters, during public meetings, on your website, and any in public announcements made by your office, that voting by mail is safe and secure — and that it does not eliminate the option of voting in person. The integrity of our elections require that state officials counter mistrust and misinformation with accuracy and truth.

Educating Voters

The 81st Legislative Session is happening right now and will end June 1, 2021. Regardless of decisions made during this legislative session, the Nevada Secretary of State's office has a responsibility to inform voters of any changes made to options for voting during the legislative session and should launch an expansive voter education campaign for the 2022 election. This campaign should include digital and printable factsheets, multi-language social media, radio and television advertisements, and voter townhalls. All Voting is Local requests that the voter education campaign for the 2022 elections be direct and inclusive of all voters, particularly students, people with limited English proficiency, Native Americans, communities of color, and disabled voters.

Our Ask

We know you are dedicated to protecting the freedom to vote for all Nevadans, and we urge you to take further action to engage and inform the public. Nevada voters deserve clear and direct information from your office. We expect additional, regular public opportunities to offer feedback and learn more about your plans to carry out the upcoming election.

Sincerely,



Kerry Durmick
All Voting Is Local