



December 20, 2023,

Frank LaRose  
Secretary of State of Ohio  
180 S Civic Center Dr.  
Columbus, OH 43215

RE: SOS ERIC

Dear Secretary LaRose:

On February 28, 2023, the Ohio Secretary of State Office issued [DIRECTIVE 2023-05](#) to all “County Boards of Elections Board Members, Directors, and Deputy Directors [regarding] Data Collection, Notice, and Cancellation Procedures for Completion of 2019 National Change of Address (“NCOA”) Process.” Less than a month later, your office pulled Ohio out of ERIC.

While voting advocates are still not pleased with the decision - as expressed in the [sign-on letter](#) sent to you on May 25, 2023 - our hope is that your office will take steps to mitigate any harm that may have been caused by the decision to remove Ohio from ERIC. Specifically, the SOS must provide counties with resources and direction on how to identify voters who have moved out of their respective counties and facilitate the “registration readiness” process. As you may recall, ERIC provided a standardized process that checked registration records uniformly across the state; unfortunately, that process will now be left to each local jurisdiction to accomplish with no clear guidance.

This year, Ohio has conducted [multiple list](#) maintenance processes - the frequency at which these occurred in this time period was uncommon and not lost on us. In the past, these individuals would have been triggered into confirmation status through the coding and criteria process set out by the ERIC.

The decision to leave ERIC impacted the administration of elections in our state in a multiplicity of ways, but in the present, we are concerned that the guidance your office has provided - or perhaps lack thereof - will trigger people's removal from the voter registration rolls. We implore you to answer: **given that we are no longer a part of ERIC, what guidance has the Ohio Secretary of State's Office provided about properly coding an individual to be removed from the rolls?**

Please provide any directives, memos, advisories, emails, or any other communication that your office has provided to the boards. If you have not provided guidance, we would like to know 1. when will the office do so and 2. will the office implement a list maintenance schedule?

Respectfully Submitted,

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