STATE OF INDIANA

TODD ROKITA, Secretary of State

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The Honorable Todd Rokita
Indiana Secretary of State
The State House, Room 201
Indianapolis, IN 46204

Dear Secretary Rokita:

Thank you for your letter of last week regarding a statewide voter registration mailing. While I agree with you that efforts should be made to ensure an accurate voter registration file and that this should be a goal of the Indiana Election Division, I disagree with you on the best ways to accomplish it. My concern is quite simple – that we provide an accurate statewide voter registration system that is cost effective for the taxpayers of Indiana.

Our bipartisan agency has worked with you and past Secretaries of State on various efforts to address this issue. For example, we have conducted a duplicate voter registration elimination program, developed a statewide voter registration system that daily matches voters against the Indiana Department of Health for deceased voters and the Indiana Department of Correction for incarcerated voters that may be ineligible, and have worked with county officials by conducting extensive training so that errors on the statewide voter file could be reduced.

I believe that we can accomplish the goal of establishing a more accurate voter file by doing the following:

- Conduct a duplicate voter registration elimination program to determine potential voters that may be registered to vote in Indiana at more than one address.
- Match the Indiana Voter Registration List against the United States Postal Service's National Change of Address Program (NCOA) to determine potential voters that may have moved.
- Match the Indiana Voter Registration List against the Social Security Administration's Death List to determine individuals who may have died in the United States including Indiana voters who may have died out of state.
- Encourage counties to process the backlog of information from the Indiana Department of Health that has data on deceased voters for the past 10 years.
- Pay for improvements to the statewide voter registration system to reduce the impediments to voting that were demonstrated at the primary on Tuesday, such as voters appearing on the wrong polls lists, system performance issues with the absentee process, and significant problems with the format of the poll books.

These solutions will help provide Hoosiers with a more accurate voter file and will ensure that we reserve valuable but limited federal funds to improve the administration of elections here in Indiana at a fraction of the cost of your proposal.

Sincerely,

Kristi Robertson
Co-Director

cc: Mr. Dan Parker, Chairman, Indiana Democratic Party
Mr. Murray Clark, Chairman, Indiana Republican Party
Mr. Eric Eversole, Civil Rights Division, U.S. Department of Justice
Mr. J. Bradley King, Co-Director, Indiana Election Division