

**SECRETARY OF STATE  
STATE OF INDIANA**



**TODD ROKITA**  
SECRETARY OF STATE

April 12, 2004

Dear Administrator,

In recent elections I have heard troubling reports of attempts at voter intimidation by political candidates, campaigns and party workers coming into long-term care facilities.

As Indiana's chief election officer I want to ensure that every citizen has the opportunity to vote without being pressured or intimidated by someone trying to influence the outcome of an election. These unscrupulous characters often take advantage of Indiana's absentee ballot laws as a way to accumulate votes.

Indiana law provides the option of an absentee ballot for any citizen 65 years of age or older. Disabled voters are also entitled to request that an absentee ballot be mailed to them. Likewise, voters who will be working at their regular place of employment, from 6 a.m. until 6 p.m., *the entire time* the polls are open, can ask for an absentee ballot. Voters who are confined due to illness or injury, serve as the caregiver for an individual who is confined to their home, or expect to be out of the county on election day, are also eligible to vote absentee.

Enclosed you will find a list of "Common Questions and Answers" regarding voting absentee or voting done by residents at long-term care facilities. Please read the list and make it available to your staff. We must not tolerate abuses of the absentee ballot process, especially when seniors or other vulnerable citizens are the targets.

If you have any questions or want to report any unusual election-related activity you feel may be illegal, please contact me or your county prosecutor immediately.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Todd Rokita". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letters of the first and last names being capitalized and prominent.

Todd Rokita  
Indiana Secretary of State