

September 22, 2022

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi
Speaker
United States House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Chuck Schumer
Majority Leader
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Re: Importance of Protecting Election Workers

Dear Speaker Pelosi and Leader Schumer:

We write to express our support for federal legislation to support election workers, including the recently introduced *Election Worker Protection Act*.

Election workers are essential to the administration of our elections, and each election we rely on citizens from across our states to lend a hand and help ensure the free exercise of the right to vote. The safety and security of these election workers is critical to the health of our democracy.

As Secretaries of State and Chief Election Officials, we are aware of the ongoing and unprecedented threats directed at election workers across the country, and have seen their terrible impact on our colleagues. These threats are often violent and have been aimed at us, and at individuals simply going about their jobs. As a result of this rise in threats and other challenges, we have seen shortages of election workers in our states and across the country.

Though some of our states have passed legislation to address these threats, additional action is needed at the federal level to ensure that all election workers have the necessary support and protection to do their jobs. The *Election Worker Protection Act* makes clear that these attacks on election workers will not be tolerated, by making it a federal crime to threaten, interfere with, or dox an election worker.

This legislation also provides needed resources to support election workers, including for recruitment and training, physical security measures, and protection against disclosure of personal information.

These protections will protect hardworking public servants who in recent years have received death threats and even had their home addresses published online. Sadly, threats like this have been experienced by election workers in all of our states and across the country; we cannot allow them to continue unchecked.

We know what tools are needed to protect election workers, and we look forward to working with Congress to advance this legislation.

Sincerely,



Steve Simon
Secretary of State
Minnesota



Tahesha Way, Esq.
Secretary of State
New Jersey



Jim Condos
Secretary of State
Vermont



William Francis Galvin
Secretary of the Commonwealth
Massachusetts



Sheena Bellows
Secretary of State
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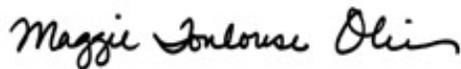
Leigh Chapman
Acting Secretary of the Commonwealth
Pennsylvania



Nellie M. Gorbea
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Secretary of State
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Maggie Toulouse Oliver
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