

Andrea Gyger

From: Linda Mackety [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, August 13, 2014 2:46 PM
To: SoS Rulemaking
Subject: August 14 Hearing Election Integrity

Dear Secretary Gessler:

In a free society, legitimacy of government depends on integrity of the ballot. There are a number of aspects of rulemaking that can be applied to the new laws that can make our voting process less prone to abuse.

1. There needs to be a **written** chain of custody for ballots returned by someone other than the voter and limited to a quantity of 10. It is not a hardship for a voter to include name and address of permitted person on the envelope and would assure me that people are not simply "harvesting" unused/discarded ballots.
2. Secrecy of ballot must be maintained. Use of a secrecy sleeve that hides the voted ballot from election officials and watchers, should be required until the ballot is separated from **any** identifiers.
3. When requested by a voter, clerks should be required to provide a "flat ballot": a paper ballot that is untraceable, **voted in private**, and does not require a mail envelope.
4. I have been a watcher at Jefferson County elections and have seen how easy it is to **verify signatures**. This process should be standard practice and done in a bi-partisan manner, not by any one judge unilaterally.
5. Stop/discourage the early tallying of ballots. The statute allows this, but it really is unnecessary. It provides an avenue for insiders, especially in small districts, to be able to influence the final vote on issues or candidates. Actual counting should only be done on election day.

Thank you for allowing me to comment and for considering my concerns.

Linda M Mackety
Jefferson County
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