



CELIA ISRAEL

STATE REPRESENTATIVE • DISTRICT 50

June 30, 2017

The Honorable Rolando Pablos
Texas Secretary of State
P.O. Box 12887
Austin, Texas 78711-2887

Dear Secretary Rolando B. Pablos,

I was deeply concerned to learn of the letter sent to the state by Kris Kobach, vice chair for the Presidential Advisory Commission on Election Integrity, requesting extensive access to sensitive information about Texans. While I cannot understand why Texas would share this information at all, I strongly urge you to deny this request until Mr. Kolbach clarifies the reasons for this unprecedented request and clarifies that sensitive voter information will not be made public. Further, should any information be shared, it is critical the Office of the Secretary of State ensures the privacy and security of all Texans before doing so.

Mr. Koback's extensive record of illegal voter disenfranchisement in Kansas gives me great pause about how this information will be used. Last week's decision by a federal judge to fine Mr. Kobach for "patently misrepresenting the court" only increases my concern about the lack of transparency in his request.

As you know, during this recent legislative session, the Texas Legislature passed extensive legislation to prevent mail ballot fraud and protect vulnerable voters such as senior citizens. The Texas House Elections Committee heard testimony, and we acted. However, as Vice Chair of the House Elections Committee, I remain extremely concerned about national and state leaders who create unsubstantiated fears about nearly nonexistent in-person voter fraud while disenfranchising eligible voters in the process.

I appreciate your leadership and look forward to your feedback on this important issue. I stand ready to help you strengthen our voting systems.

Sinceramente,

Celia Israel
Texas State Representative, House District 50

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