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## One Hundred Seventeenth Congress of the United States House of Representatives

## **COMMITTEE ON HOUSE ADMINISTRATION**

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October 26, 2022

RODNEY DAVIS, ILLINOIS RANKING MINORITY MEMBER

BARRY LOUDERMILK, GEORGIA BRYAN STEIL, WISCONSIN

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Honorable Ken Paxton Texas Attorney General Office of the Attorney General PO Box 12548 Austin, TX 78711-2548

Dear Attorney General Paxton:

As Ranking Member of the Committee on House Administration, which has broad oversight of our nation's federal elections, I write today in regard to the recent reporting that Planned Parenthood and the campaign for Democrat gubernatorial nominee Robert Francis O'Rourke have mailed voter registration applications to deceased individuals.<sup>1</sup>

As you know, federal law requires that Texas ensure that its voter registration lists are well-maintained and accurate,<sup>2</sup> and we encourage you to hold all organizations that engage in voter registration efforts to the highest accountability that the law demands. It is deeply troubling that Planned Parenthood and Mr. O'Rourke's campaign sent voter registration forms that may not conform to state law to individuals who, in some cases, have been deceased for over a decade. It goes without saying: Situations like this have a negative effect on voter confidence at a time we can least afford it. Texas voters must be assured not only that their vote will count, but that all—and only—legal votes will be counted.

I understand you have launched your Election Integrity Division to investigate instances like this, and I encourage you to direct them to pursue this with all due haste. With the November 8 general election so close, it is crucial that voters are assured that this issue will be addressed and understand that no illegal ballots will be accepted or counted by election offices in your state. I encourage you to take all lawful steps to ensure voters' confidence in the election is not shaken.

Should you have questions, please contact Caleb Hays, Republican General Counsel & Deputy Staff Director, at Caleb.Hays@mail.house.gov

Sincerely,

Rodney Davis
Ranking Member

Committee on House Administration

CC: John B. Scott, Texas Secretary of State

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Matt Johnson, *Planned Parenthood Caught Mailing Illegal Voter Registration Forms to Dead People in High-Profile Race*, American Liberty News (Oct. 24, 2022), https://americanliberty.news/commentary/planned-parenthood-caught-mailing-illegal-voter-registration-forms-to-dead-people-in-high-profile-race/dferguson/2022/10/
<sup>2</sup> National Voter Registration Act of 1993, Sec. 8, 103 Pub. L. 31, 107 Stat. 77, *codified at* 52 U.S.C. § 20507.