

P.O. Box 752555
Las Vegas, Nevada
August 10, 2022

The Honorable Barbara Cegavske
Nevada Secretary of State
State Capitol Building
101 North Carson Street, Suite 3
Carson City, NV 89701

Madam Secretary,

The 2020 election cycle was - and continues to be - one of the most controversial in the history of our United States. The irregularities and questions of transparency from across our country and across our state give us cause to take steps and refine processes that will ensure a secure, transparent, and accurate election in 2022 and for years to come. I believe we all agree that the citizens of this great state, your constituents, deserve an election system that is trusted and unquestionably and profoundly reliable. This is the basis of this non-partisan call to action for you and your staff.

Background. Over the last few months, there have been acknowledgements of security vulnerabilities with mechanical and electronic tabulating and vote counting machines. These machines were a concentration of concern in Nevada during the last election cycle, and recent audit(s) in various other states and countries have corroborated, if not validated, the concern.

In Fulton County, Pennsylvania, a recent assessment conducted by Wake Technology Services Inc, uncovered numerous issues.⁽¹⁾ The most concerning was the installment of Microsoft SQL Server Data Tools software found on the mechanical devices (machines) used in their elections. The concern with this is twofold. First, the Microsoft SQL Server Data Tools software is not certified by the Federal Election Commission as required before use in any election process. Second, this software can be used to create, maintain, and rewrite the source code of the database. According to private technology research non-profit OSET Institute, this software can be used for nefarious purposes, such as vote count manipulations. If the software was used for this purpose, the altering of vote counts would be undetectable by election officials. While it is acknowledged that Nevada's version is different than that discussed in the source article, the fact remains that this software could be used, unbeknownst to election officials, and its removal deserves consideration.

The concern with these mechanical voting systems/devices is not a problem noted only in Fulton County, Pennsylvania. In 2013, these machines came under fire for manipulation of elections in the Philippines.⁽²⁾ In that election, an independent review of the software source code revealed numerous concerns causing the software used in the machines to be labeled inadequate and its credibility questioned.

In yet another example, the State of Texas - on three separate occasions - conducted a thorough evaluation on the same mechanical voting systems used in Nevada, and after noting these vulnerabilities, the Deputy Secretary of State denied certification of the machines. In the most recent

report, signed on January 24, 2020, the findings noted:

Specifically, the examiner reports raise concerns about whether the Democracy Suite 5.5-A system is suitable for its intended purpose; operates efficiently and accurately; and is safe from fraudulent or unauthorized manipulation. ⁽³⁾

Finally and with significant concern, it must be noted, that the company the machines are made by and purchased/leased from is headquartered in a foreign country (Canada). Furthermore, in recent years at least one of the subsidiaries of the parent company was led by a former Vice-President of George Soros' Investment Funds.⁽²⁾ This revelation and relationship to a high-profile partisan activist would lead any reasonable person to draw concern to the non-partisanship of the software and mechanical devices used. Add in the highlighted examples where manipulation had or could occur and I, and many others, believe this situation deserves immediate and sweeping reform.

Wouldn't you agree that our elections processes, procedures, and results should be arrived at in an accurate, transparent, and non-partisan manner? Shouldn't the will of the people be recorded in a way that is not easily manipulated? A manner that can be trusted, tested, viewed, and scrutinized for accuracy without complicated and concealable code?

Madam Secretary, you and you alone have the power to take the appropriate measures.

Authority. Nevada Revised Statute 293b.1045, Standards and Procedures for approval of systems or devices by Secretary of State; regulations. Paragraph 1 states: No mechanical voting system or mechanical recording device may be purchased or leased in or used in any election of this State unless the system or device is approved by the Secretary of State. Additionally, Paragraph 9 states; The Secretary of State may establish regulations to carry out the provisions of this section. (Added by to NRS by 2017, 547)

In accordance with NAC 293B.110, it is the Secretary of State's purview to certify software, firmware, and operating systems. Before each election cycle, the software and firmware installed on each component of the voting system must be certified to match that versions approved for use and on file with the National Software Reference Library.

Call to Action. Madam Secretary, it is prudent and warranted to exercise your authority given under the aforementioned Nevada Revised Statute and deliver to your constituents, the citizens of the great State of Nevada a fair, transparent, secure, and accurate election process that delivers results in a manner that truly speaks the will of the people, while minimizing opportunity of manipulation.

It is the purpose of this letter to request:

1. Immediate action to develop a process for the 2022 election that does not rely on electronic or mechanical counting devices that have consistently demonstrated their vulnerabilities to manipulation.
2. The diversion of resources to support process development and implementation

As we approach the 2022 election cycle, it is my belief that we have an opportunity to truly hear the election choices of the people who decide how they should be governed. I believe that you have an opportunity to lead this effort and cement your legacy as a steward of the U.S. and Nevada

Constitutions. I believe there is no better way to bring voters, even those fully disenfranchised, back to the voting booth to rightly determine the future of our nation.

In closing, Madam Secretary, thank you for the consideration of this request. At your convenience, I will gladly offer my services to consult on this action and work to bring volunteers from both sides of the aisle to craft a truly non-partisan, fair, secure, transparent, and unquestionably accurate 2022 election. Your constituents - and the candidates working hard to make a difference - deserve our best.

Respectfully,



Sam Peters
Candidate for Congress, NV-4(R)
Concerned Citizen
702-843-4661

- (1) https://www.theepochtimes.com/mkt_app/election-assessment-in-pennsylvania-county-uncovers-five-issues-of-note_3855230.html
- (2) https://www.thecentersquare.com/national/officials-raised-concerns-for-years-about-security-of-u-s-voting-machines-software-systems/article_bec0fc86-2144-11eb-bc8c-bb85a60db758.html
- (3) <https://www.sos.texas.gov/elections/forms/sysexam/dominion-d-suite-5.5-a.pdf>