

Dear Senate President Blasdel and Speaker Galt,

The purpose of this letter is to request the appointment of a select committee of legislators to investigate the 2020 elections and review the current election laws in Montana.

**Article IV of the Montana Constitution states:**

***Elections. The legislature shall provide by law the requirements for residence, registration, absentee voting, and administration of elections. It may provide for a system of poll booth registration, and shall insure the purity of elections and guard against abuses of the electoral process.***

In Feb. 2020, the Government Accountability Office (GAO) issued a report on [Election Security](#) indicating a Department of Homeland Security plan was URGENTLY needed to address identified challenges before the 2020 elections. We must confirm that the challenges were met.

As you are aware, the legislatures constitutional authority was usurped in the 2020 election by Governor Bullocks directive dated Aug 6, 2020 – [Executive Orders 2-2020 and 3-2020](#), which provided measures in the 2020 November general election, where by Counties were permitted to conduct mail ballot elections and expanded early voting, although [MCA 13-19-104](#) specifically prohibits the conduct of federal elections by mail.

Three hundred and fifty million dollars from [the Center for Tech and Civic Life \(CTCL\)](#), (which originates with Mark Zuckerberg/Facebook (Zuckerberg connection is in the sixth paragraph) was infused into our 2020 election process, which included [28 Montana counties in Montana](#). It's completely unethical to have outside funding with a stated agenda influencing our elections and should be illegal.

Six Montana legislators (myself, Rep Brad Tschida, Rep Paul Fielder, Rep Jerry Schlinger, Rep Bob Phalen, and Rep Steven Galloway) recently attended the Mike Lindell's, 3 day, [Cyber Symposium](#) in Sioux Falls, SD where we saw evidence of election irregularities from across the nation, heard direct testimony of citizens who had their vote affected and disqualified, reviewed analytical and circumstantial evidence which all exposed vulnerabilities in our election process, our laws, chain of custody and the opportunities election tampering.

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Our interest in the Cyber Symposium was heightened by election irregularities uncovered by the Missoula County Election Integrity Project, comprised of a group of dedicated citizens who made their interest in reviewing the election process known to the Missoula County Election Office administrator well in advance of the 2020 election. The irregularities include:

- due to a court dispute, no ballots were to be mailed prior to 10/9/20. 1,092 were sent prior to this date.
- 28 voters were sent a ballot on 10/9/20 for which the SOS database shows an eligibility date AFTER the 2020 election.
- 4,592 ballots were found without corresponding signature/affirmation envelopes.

- 28 ballots received from one Missoula nursing home were all signed in the same handwriting.
- a random count conducted on 15,455 envelopes. The count identified 55 envelopes with no dates and 53 that appeared to lack confirmation of signature authenticity.
- 5,998 ballots were mailed to voters for the 2020 general election that were marked as “undeliverable” the last time a ballot was sent in a previous election.
- video records of the election process were destroyed prior to the 60-day Missoula County records retention policy. These records had been requested to be preserved prior to the election.

Grass roots citizens groups are spending thousands of dollars and hundreds of hours making Open Records Requests to their Election Officials, with limited or no success, sometimes being demeaned in the process. This is completely unacceptable; and they are demanding our assistance. Our oath of office makes it clear that we have a fiduciary responsibility to honor their demand.

We’ve already identified some of the vulnerabilities in our state laws which must be addressed prior to the next election. Critical areas include, but are not limited to electronic records retention time limits; prior and post-election forensic imaging must be put in statute ([Rep Tschida’s letter to SOS Jacobsen](#)); the Post-Election Certification Audit process must be revamped to verify election integrity and meaningful audits. Our entire election process and chain of custody must be scrutinized from beginning to the end.

We’ve been left with several questions that need answers, and it’s our duty to answer them. Why were ballots for voters with eligibility dates after 11/3/2020, accepted and processed? How is the certification processes of voting machines and tabulators conducted? Are we taking a third- party vendor at their word that the machines do not have internet connection capability? If not, how are the sealed units inspected? Is there a ballot chain of custody and ballot reconciliation from the time of ordering to final unused ballots? What is the thumb drives chain of custody? Who has access to the voting/tabulation machines? We question 88% of Montana adults being on the voter rolls for 2020 and seek verification.

Simply stating “there’s no voter fraud in Montana” or “we’ll do better in the future” won’t cut it with the citizens. The election process must be open to the public and withstand scrutiny if we are to reinstate the public’s trust. Again, it’s our constitutional directive as state legislators to verify the challenges and the process is secure. The communication from citizens demanding we do our jobs is unprecedented. To determine the correct solutions, the loopholes, vague laws, implementation inconsistency, and opportunities for election tampering must be identified, which would be the primary objective of the Special Select Committee we are requesting. We also believe the legislators who made the commitment to attend the SD symposium should receive priority placement on the committee.

Any person who willingly or unwittingly aided in the falsification or modification of equipment, ballots, counts or any other matter dealing directly with changing the integrity of any vote, or who prevented any person from receiving the equal protection due them under the law, must be held accountable for their actions. Criminal behavior must be rooted out and remedied, or those responsible may be emboldened to find new ways to modify the outcomes of future elections. All our sovereign, individual rights must be protected, with the sanctity of the vote being a right of paramount importance.

We, the undersigned, do hereby request a select committee be appointed for the purpose of adjudicating these concerns.

## Faithfully for Freedom

Sen Theresa Manzella	Rep Caleb Hinkle
Sen Carl Glimm	Rep Bill Mercer
Sen Bob Kennan	Rep Jeremy Trebus
Sen Dave Howard	Rep Amy Regier
Sen Jason Ellsworth	Rep Becky Beard
Sen Gordy Vance	Rep Brandon Ler
Sen Bob Brown	Rep Dan Bartel
Sen Keith Regier	Rep Seth Berglee
Sen Kenneth Bogner	Rep Neil Duram
Sen Cary Smith	Rep John Fuller
Sen Tom McGilvery	Rep Scott Kerns
Sen Mike Lang =?	Rep Ed Hill
Sen Butch Gillespie	Rep Steve Gist
Rep Brad Tschida	Rep Fiona Nave
Rep Paul Fielder	Rep Joe Read
Rep Steve Galloway	Rep Vince Ricci
Rep Lola Sheldon-Galloway	Rep Larry Brewster
Rep Jerry Schillinger	Rep Dennis Lenz
Rep Bob Phalen	Rep Denley Loge
Rep Derek Skees	Rep Rhonda Knudsen
Rep Matt Regier	Rep Llew Jones
Rep Michele Binkley	Rep Fred Anderson
Rep Ron Marshall	Rep Sue Vinton
Rep Alan Redfield	Rep Jennifer Carlson
Rep Jane Gillette	Rep Ken Homlund
Rep Barry Usher	Rep Marti Malone
Rep Mark Noland	Rep Ross Fitzgerald
Rep Steve Gunderson	Rep Casey Knudsen
Rep Jediah Hinkle	Rep Frank Flemming