

Because the president of the United States has questioned the integrity of our electoral system and hinted that he may not accept the outcome of our November 3rd election, we wish to state publicly that we believe in that system, which is vital to our democracy. We have absolute confidence that the Vermont Secretary of State, Vermont Town and City Clerks, and Boards of Civil Authority throughout Vermont will carry out their duties in a trustworthy manner. Indeed, Vermont can be seen as an example to the rest of the nation of how a democracy should function. We encourage other congregations, organizations, and individuals to join us in issuing this challenge.

COUNT EVERY VOTE! VERMONT

Given that the right of citizens to choose their own leaders is a bedrock principle of democracy and that fairly administered elections are the mechanism to achieve this ideal, we call upon our elected leaders and candidates for leadership positions to take the following pledge:

- to work to ensure equal and convenient access by all citizens to the right to vote;
- to insist on the counting of all lawful ballots in a timely, secure, and transparent manner;
- to refrain from declaring a final election result until all such ballots have been counted;
- to take all measures available to them to contest any declared results that do not include the counting of all lawful votes;
- to support the right of the people to demonstrate peaceably in favor of all votes being counted, both in Vermont and across the country;
- to insist on a peaceful transfer of power if a complete and legal vote count requires it.

I agree that my pledge can be public and encourage my peers to take the same pledge.

Signed,

Name

Date

Office/district for which you are a candidate