

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives

COMMITTEE ON OVERSIGHT AND REFORM

2157 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING

WASHINGTON, DC 20515-6143

MAJORITY (202) 225-5051
MINORITY (202) 225-5074

<https://oversight.house.gov>

December 15, 2020

The Honorable Brad Raffensperger
Secretary of State
214 State Capitol
Atlanta, Georgia 30334

Dear Secretary Raffensperger:

We write to express our continued concern with serious allegations of voting irregularities that occurred in the state of Georgia during the 2020 general elections, and to request a briefing from your office on its investigations into fraud or illegal activities as well as steps your office is taking to ensure the integrity of the upcoming Senate runoff elections.

The sanctity of the ballot box and the maxim “one person, one vote” are paramount in a democratic society. Yet in the aftermath of the 2020 election, our constituents have genuine concerns that their vote may have been diluted by fraud, ballots that failed to comply with applicable elections laws, and ballots cast by ineligible voters. This is particularly the case for voters in Georgia.

We are deeply troubled, as are our constituents, by reports of fraud and other irregularities, including voting by deceased or otherwise ineligible voters, voting by individuals who may permanently reside out of state, uncounted ballots discovered during audits, and inconsistently applied signature verifications to ensure that absentee ballots received by mail were indeed cast by an eligible voter in accordance with the law.¹

In spite of these legitimate concerns, you have denounced anyone questioning the integrity of the 2020 election or your administration of that election as conspiracy theorists² peddling misinformation.³ Your answer to legitimate questions being raised about the integrity

¹ See O.C.G.A. § 21-2-386(a)(1) (requiring signature verification and rejection of ballots received without a signature or where the signature appears to be invalid).

² Kephart, Tim, *Raffensperger says Biden won, again; says conspiracy theories hurt the state*, CBS NEWS WGCL-TV (Dec. 7, 2020) https://www.cbs46.com/news/raffensperger-says-biden-won-again-says-conspiracy-theories-hurt-the-state/article_3d8be4a8-38a2-11eb-a6c7-bbb47146d590.html

³ Durkee, Alison, *Georgia GOP Officials Slam Election Conspiracy Theories: ‘Exploiting The Emotions’ Of Trump Supporters*, FORBES (Nov. 30, 2020), available at <https://www.forbes.com/sites/alisondurkee/2020/11/30/georgia-gop-officials-slam-election-conspiracy-theories-exploiting-the-emotions-of-trump-supporters/?sh=7d8db3ef32f7>.

of the vote in Georgia appears to be that we shouldn't worry because you have singlehandedly concluded that fraud or irregularities are "unlikely" to have affected the outcome.⁴

Fraud and illegality cannot be tolerated whether or not the outcome would be affected. Moreover, it is far from clear that the outcome in this case was unaffected, as the candidates in the presidential race in Georgia are separated by less than 13,000 votes out of almost 5 million cast in the state.⁵

Despite your assurances that the general election was "the most secure in history"⁶ and "a resounding success,"⁷ it has been reported that your own office is investigating approximately 250 cases of election law violations in connection with the 2020 election that you have deemed to be "credible."⁸

We therefore request that you provide us a member-level briefing as soon as possible on the administration of the November 3, 2020 general election in the state of Georgia and any irregularities that have been brought to your office's attention. Your briefing should also provide information on how your office initiates and handles investigations of elections crimes, particularly as they relate to the November 2020 general election, as well as an explanation of your intentions to ensure the January runoff election is secure from fraud and irregularities.

Please contact Committee staff at (202) 225-5074 to schedule the briefing by December 22, 2020. Thank you in advance for your cooperation with this matter.

Sincerely,



Jody Hice
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Government Operations



Glenn Grothman
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on National Security

⁴ Statement of Secretary of State Brad Raffensperger (Nov. 9, 2020), available at <https://twitter.com/GaSecofState/status/1325917055611265024/photo/1>.

⁵ Official Results, Georgia Secretary of State, (Updated Nov. 20, 2020); available at <https://results.enr.clarityelections.com/GA/105369/web.264614/#/summary>

⁶ Statement of Secretary of State Brad Raffensperger (Dec. 6, 2020), available at <https://www.wsj.com/articles/trump-runs-the-stacey-abrams-playbook-11607295416>.

⁷ Statement of Secretary of State Brad Raffensperger (Nov. 9, 2020), available at <https://twitter.com/GaSecofState/status/1325917055611265024/photo/1>. ("The election on Tuesday, November 3, 2020 in Georgia, from an election administration perspective was a resounding success.")

⁸ Garrison, Joey, 'Fantastic claims, half truths, misinformation': Georgia official says Trump supporters misled, USA TODAY (Nov. 30, 2020), available at <https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/politics/elections/2020/11/30/brad-raffensperger-says-dishonest-actors-spreading-misinformation-georgia/6464658002/>.



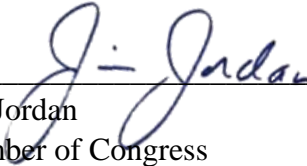
Michael Cloud
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Economic and
Consumer Policy



Chip Roy
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Civil Rights and
Civil Liberties



Mark Green, M.D.
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on the Environment



Jim Jordan
Member of Congress



Paul A. Gosar, D.D.S
Member of Congress



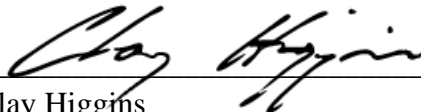
Thomas Massie
Member of Congress



Gary Palmer
Member of Congress



Bob Gibbs
Member of Congress



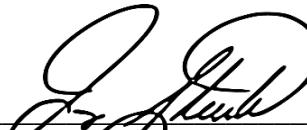
Clay Higgins
Member of Congress



Ralph Norman
Member of Congress



Kelly Armstrong
Member of Congress



W. Gregory Steube
Member of Congress



James Comer
Ranking Member
House Committee on Oversight and Reform

Secretary of State Raffensperger

December 15, 2020

Page 4

cc: The Honorable Carolyn Maloney, Chairwoman
Committee on Oversight and Reform

The Honorable Gerald E. Connolly, Chairman
Subcommittee on Government Operations

The Honorable Stephen F. Lynch, Chairman
Subcommittee on National Security

The Honorable Raja Krishnamoorthi, Chairman
Subcommittee on Economic and Consumer Policy

The Honorable Jamie Raskin, Chairman
Subcommittee on Civil Rights and Civil Liberties

The Honorable Harley E. Rouda, Chairman
Subcommittee on Environment