

REPUBLICAN PARTY OF NEW MEXICO STATEMENT ON NM SECRETARY OF STATE'S PROPOSED ELECTION RULES CHANGES

Albuquerque, July 22--The following is a statement from RPNM's Election Integrity Committee regarding today's hearing by the Secretary of State on proposed changes in election rules:

"Election integrity has always been a top priority for the Republican Party of New Mexico, and RPNM has questioned the lack of security and monitoring regarding drop boxes in the voting process. There is nothing in state statute that requires county clerks to establish a minimum number of ballot drop boxes in their counties. To add more drop box locations at college campuses, community centers, public buildings and other places creates more opportunities for fraud and other problems. It is unlikely that video surveillance for these drop boxes will be adequately monitored as county clerks lack the resources for 24-hour monitoring of video cameras. This would result in open season for those who would harvest ballots and otherwise violate the law and the principle of one-person onevote. RPNM opposes this suggested new requirement. RPNM also believes proposed rule changes by the Secretary of State do not conform with election code and do not address the realities of mail ballot handling by counties and Absentee Voter Precinct Boards."

RPNM also submitted written comments for the hearing.

Click here to read comments on proposed election amendments.

<u>Click here</u> to read comments regarding proposed changes for ballot drop boxes.