

Secretary of State Scanlan
State House Annex, Room 317
25 Capital Street, 3rd Floor
Concord, NH 03301

September 6, 2024

Dear Secretary of State Scanlan,

We are bringing to your attention a significant election integrity issue for immediate remedy before the primary election scheduled for September 10, 2024 . The issue centers on securing election night ballots which are the critical back up for our election night results and recounts.

On Page 98 of the 2024-2025 election manual states *“This “tamper-evident” tape is intended to prove that the box of ballots has not been opened between being sealed on election night and being opened at a recount or a court hearing.”* Instruction is given to our towns in the manual as well in their clerk training is to apply the tamper evident tape on top of the filament tape used to seal the box. On page 164 the election manual states *“This security tape changes appearance if it is pulled loose after being sealed, creating evidence that the box has been tampered with.”* In addition, *“The Secretary of State provides red tamper evident tape to go on top of the packing tape.” Page 252*

Through discovery and analysis with professional packaging suppliers and experts as well as through experiment, we have discovered that the tamper evident tape supplied by your office to all towns in NH to secure ballot boxes when applied over filament or packaging tape as well as labels fails to void when removed from the carton and DOES NOT meet the stated intention of proving the ballot boxes have not been opened after sealed. We are aware that not only the instruction manual has been flawed but the training of our clerks and election officials for this primary also demonstrated this methodology for election night security.

A simple remedy is to apply the clear packing tape OVER the tamper resistant tape which will create the intended security your office sought to create.

Please take action and immediately inform all town moderators to apply this layer of clear packing tape on top of the tamper resistant tape to insure we have the security and integrity we all desire. Post primary, your office can refine the election manual or perhaps change the tape selection to tamper proof tape.

Thank you

Al Brandano

Brenda Towne

CC:

Attorney General John Formella

Governor Chris Sununu