

## State of Mississippi Office of the Lieutenaut Governor DELBERT HOSEMANN

Lieutenant Governor

May 30, 2024

Dear Election Commissioners:

Thank you for all you do to keep Mississippi's elections efficient and secure. As a former Secretary of State, I know the integrity of our election system and our critical election officials are of paramount importance to the future of our State.

The Legislature passed several key bills which will help all counties continue to conduct free and fair elections during the 2024 Legislative Session. These include:

- Senate Bill 2144: moved the runoff election for county elections from three (3) to four (4) weeks after the first election. This should allow you more time to prepare for any subsequent runoff elections, while ensuring the first election is properly certified.
- House Bill 1406: streamlines the absentee voting process for voters appearing in-person before the circuit clerk. This should help the Resolution Board when processing absentee ballots. The Resolution Board is no longer allowed to reject absentee ballots for a signature mismatch for in-person absentee ballots as the voter is now only required to sign the ballot envelope. House Bill 1406 also requires a box, rather than a simple line, for the voter and attesting witness to sign. The legislature hopes this avoids confusing when "signing across the flap of the envelope" for absentee voters.

I remember well all of our work together for twelve years, and I am pleased to continue to partner with you in the sessions ahead. Please do not hesitate to contact me if I can be of assistance to you in the future.

Sincerely,

C. Delbert Hosemann, Jr. Lieutenant Governor State of Mississippi

Cc: Serena Rasberry Flowers, The Consultants @ Jackson, LLC