

March 22, 2017

Dear Mr. President,

I write to you today to request again that you share your evidence of widespread voter fraud in New Hampshire with the public and with the appropriate law-enforcement authorities so that your allegations may be addressed promptly and thoroughly.

You have alleged that thousands of voters were bused from Massachusetts to New Hampshire to vote illegally on Election Day 2016. This allegation of a vast conspiracy, involving thousands of people committing felony criminal acts aimed at stealing the election, has deeply disturbed citizens throughout America. I have heard from many of them, including proud and patriotic New Englanders who are shocked by the allegation and feel that it impugns their historic role in our democracy.

Any such allegation challenging the legitimacy of federal elections would be of great concern to me. As it happens, this particular allegation falls squarely within the jurisdiction of the Federal Election Commission, since no bus expenses have been accounted for on any campaign-finance filing. Your allegations are not properly a matter for a future investigation to take up, as you cannot have responsibly alleged this scheme without already having sufficient facts in hand to do so.

As the President of the United States of America – our head of government and our head of state – your words carry considerable persuasive and legal weight. Because of the trust that Americans place in their Presidency, some lawmakers around the country may be tempted to rely on your words and move forward with unwarranted voter restrictions. Indeed, this could result in *deterring* or *preventing* American citizens from voting. Given the already disappointingly low turnouts in recent American elections, I would hope that everyone can agree that *encouraging* every citizen to vote should be a government-wide priority.

This country should make policy based on facts, not unsupported statements, no matter how high-ranking the source. In these polarized times, we will never be able to find common ground on sound policy going forward if we are operating on different assumptions of what occurred in the recent past. This is why it is so important for you to provide your evidence, so we can determine the truth of what happened in New Hampshire and craft the best actions to take in response to that truth.

Our democracy depends on the American people's faith in our elections. Your voter-fraud allegations run the risk of undermining that faith.

Facts matter, Mr. President. The American people deserve to see your evidence.

Sincerely,

Ellen L. Weintraub

Federal Election Commissioner

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