

A RESOLUTION OF THE SOUTH CAROLINA REPUBLICAN PARTY IN SUPPORT OF ELECTION INTEGRITY IN SOUTH CAROLINA

WHEREAS, the South Carolina Republican Party Platform states, “We support efforts to promote the integrity of the election process in South Carolina”; and

WHEREAS, ensuring the integrity of our elections is critical and foundational to maintaining a civil society decentralized from a federal government as the Founders intended; and

WHEREAS, the South Carolina General Assembly’s 2022 Election Integrity Act has outlawed Ballot harvesting and drop boxes, requires the voter Social Security number in order to receive an absentee ballot, and shortened the early voting window; and

WHEREAS, current state law now specifies that election related crimes are now considered a felony with up to \$5,000 in fines and 5 years in prison; and

WHEREAS, current state law requires hand-count audits to be conducted in random precincts in all 46 counties in South Carolina prior to election certification, as well as independent post-election results verification audits; and

WHEREAS, election experts agree the most resilient voting systems use paper ballots, either marked by hand or with an assistive device, and are verified by the voter before tabulation; and

WHEREAS, election integrity is a fundamental and core function that the South Carolina Republican Party consistently fights for, and the Party opposes Ranked Choice Voting in any form at any level of government;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,

THAT the South Carolina Republican Party opposes any means of voting that do not have safeguards ensuring that all ballots are fully auditable and that every vote is memorialized by a paper ballot; and

THAT the Party recognizes and supports laws and municipal codes and rules that allow for hand-counting procedures that are planned, timely and fully observable by the public and the registered parties for geographically defined audits and recounts; and

THAT the Party stands firmly in support of voter identification laws that ensure that every voter is an eligible voter, regardless of method in which they vote, at the time of voting, casting, requesting or delivering a ballot; and

THAT the Party opposes any and all efforts to unreasonably expand time periods for early or absentee voting that makes ballot counting procedures unmanageable or incapable to complete expeditiously following the conclusion of an election on Election Day; and

THAT the Party supports efforts to ensure that all ballots are fully counted on Election Day; and

THAT the Party opposes any legislation that would allow for all mail-in balloting, ranked-choice voting, temporary or ‘pop-up’ voting locations, drop boxes, and any other voting center that is not fairly defined and bound to a designated geographic territory and where voting locations exist, namely by county and precinct; and

THAT the Party supports efforts to standardize municipal elections to ensure consistency and security; and

THAT the Party supports continuing to have auditable balloting procedures using paper ballots, in reasonable limited time periods, using proper identification to strengthen voter confidence and to ensure that our election procedures are fair and open processes for all legal voters.

THAT the Party calls for any legislation necessary to ensure that our elections are conducted in accordance with the aforementioned principles.