

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

March 11, 2020

Mr. Dean C. Logan
Registrar-Recorder / County Clerk
Los Angeles County
12400 Imperial Highway
Norwalk, CA 90650

Mr. Dean C. Logan:

We write to express our concern regarding the barriers voters faced in Los Angeles County while casting their ballots on Election Day, Tuesday, March 3, 2020, and in early voting. We have heard from our constituents and seen press reports of excessively long wait times at polling stations and confusing interfaces on new electronic polling machines.

First and foremost, excessively long wait times at voting centers must be addressed. There were multiple reports of voters waiting in line for two or even three hours. In some cases, voters were instructed by poll workers to go to a different polling place, where lines were often just as long. Further, we are troubled by reports that in some cases voters were turned away at 8 p.m., after waiting in line for hours.

Such voter disenfranchisement cannot be tolerated, and we request that the LA County Registrar-Recorder fully investigate these claims and take corrective action. The LA County Registrar-Recorder must ensure that there are enough polling places, knowledgeable poll workers, and working voting machines to ease the voting process. The hardworking residents of LA County need this voting infrastructure so they can make their voices heard through the electoral process.

Voters have also reached out to us directly, or have taken to social media, with concerns about LA County's new voting machines and electronic ballots. They reportedly encountered voting machines that were broken or out of order, while other machines that were in service ran slowly or did not work properly, including not accepting paper ballots or being unable to read voters' mobile QR codes.

Finally, numerous voters stated they found the new voting machine interface confusing, including the inability to view all candidates in each race on the same screen. Voters expressed confusion about the requirement that they locate and click a "MORE" button to view all candidates in crowded races, with some voters reporting that they voted without seeing all candidates, and that when turned to for assistance, poll workers were unable to help.

Los Angeles County should be setting the example for the rest of the nation with our voting infrastructure, and we appreciate the work you have done to modernize our system and make it more accessible. However, the conduct of the March 3 election gives us serious concern and

suggests serious corrective action is needed. We request that the LA County Registrar-Recorder investigate the highlighted issues voters faced on Election Day and work to ensure that these issues are fixed before the next county-wide election on Tuesday, November 3, 2020.

We stand ready to assist in any way and await your prompt reply.

Sincerely,



Alan Lowenthal
Member of Congress



Tony Cárdenas
Member of Congress



Linda Sanchez
Member of Congress



Jimmy Gomez
Member of Congress



Nanette Diaz Barragán
Member of Congress



Ted Lieu
Member of Congress



Adam Schiff
Member of Congress



Lucille Roybal-Allard
Member of Congress



Julia Brownley
Member of Congress



Judy Chu
Member of Congress



Karen Bass
Member of Congress



Brad Sherman
Member of Congress

CC: The Honorable Alex Padilla, California Secretary of State