



# ELECTION INFRASTRUCTURE INITIATIVE

The Election Infrastructure Initiative  
303 E Wacker Ave, Suite 2106  
Chicago, IL, 60601

May 31, 2024

Dear Chairman Cole, Ranking Member DeLauro, Chairman Joyce, and Ranking Member Hoyer,

As organizations and election officials deeply committed to safeguarding and expanding voting access, we are writing to **urge you to make available, through the budget and appropriations process for Fiscal Year 2025, \$400 million of funding for election infrastructure.** This appropriation is one of the most critical voting rights priorities for the 118th Congress. With changing laws in state legislatures across the country, including restrictions on nonprofit support for election administration and limitations on local tax revenue, elections offices are left with limited options to meet urgent gaps in equipment, personnel, and facilities.

We welcome Congress' allocation of \$55 million in the FY 2024 package, which will help to address the needs of voters across the nation. However, the challenges we face moving forward require a more *substantial* and *sustained* investment to ensure that all Americans can exercise their fundamental right to vote.

Election officials in every state encounter a multitude of challenges each electoral cycle, which demand substantial financial resources. These challenges encompass navigating a dynamic landscape of cybersecurity threats, modernizing voting equipment to eliminate technical issues and ensure accurate result tabulation, continuous improvements to voter registration systems for precise voter rolls, and comprehensive training and education for election staff, poll workers, and the public.

When election administration is not adequately resourced, the core functions of our elections and the democratic process are threatened, as is the ability of large numbers of voters to participate. Frontline election workers who keep our democracy running year in and year out are unable to serve their communities, and voters—especially voters of color and those in low-income communities—risk disenfranchisement. Inadequate funding of election offices can cause long lines, delays in processing voter registrations or mail ballots, and other problems that can become insurmountable for significant numbers of would-be voters.

A 2021 analysis by the Election Infrastructure Initiative found that **election infrastructure needs at the local and state level over the next decade are a full \$53 billion.** Given the critical and substantial nature of these needs, we urge your support in including \$400 million in the FY 2025 package, a strong start to addressing this overwhelming need.

In addition to the funding request above, we also urge you to include a requirement that a certain portion of future funding allocations be passed through directly to localities, where a good deal of election administration takes place, to ensure these frontline democracy workers have the resources they need to run safe, secure, and modern elections.

We understand that federal resources are limited and face competing demands, but funding our election infrastructure is an investment in every facet of our lives. Federal funding for elections will bolster voter confidence, ensure that every citizen's voice is heard, and safeguard the integrity of our electoral process—all essential ingredients in a healthy democracy.

Thank you for your dedication to our democracy. We appreciate your consideration of this crucial request.

Sincerely,

**Patty Hansen**  
County Recorder  
Coconino County, Arizona

**Tommy Gong**  
Deputy County Clerk-Recorder  
and Registrar of Voters  
Contra Costa County, California

**R. Todd Davidson**  
Election Director  
Denver, Colorado

**Amanda Gonzalez**  
Clerk and Recorder  
Jefferson County, Colorado

**Giselle Feliciano**  
Registrar of Voters  
Hartford, Connecticut

**Omega R Finney**  
Henry County Board of Elections and Voter  
Registration - Board Member  
Henry County, Georgia

**Lisa M. Watson**  
Executive Director  
City of Galesburg, Illinois

**Bonnie Johnson**  
Information Security Officer  
McHenry County, Illinois

**Renee Roland**  
Deputy Auditor  
Sac County, Iowa

**Catherine Harder-Bernier**  
Town Clerk  
Hanover, Massachusetts

**Kim Meltzer**  
Township Clerk  
Clinton Township, Michigan

**Dawn Sawicki-Franz**  
Clerk/Treasurer  
Imlay City, Michigan

**Kristin B. Connelly**  
Clerk-Recorder and Registrar of Voters  
Contra Costa County, California

**Cathy Darling Allen**  
Retired Shasta County Clerk  
Shasta County, California

**Paul Lopez**  
Clerk and Recorder  
City and County of Denver, Colorado

**Sara Mussen**  
Registrar of Voters  
Colchester, Connecticut

**Jillian Brimecombe**  
Deputy Registrar of Voters  
Windsor, Connecticut

**Kecia Brown**  
Supervisor  
Charlton, Georgia

**Anthony Vega**  
County Clerk  
Lake County, Illinois

**Jessica Hockemeyer**  
Voter Registration/Election Supervisor  
Whitley County, Indiana

**John L. Myers, Jr.**  
Elected Town Clerk  
Town of Buxton, Maine

**Wendi Heyliger**  
Township Clerk  
Buchanan Charter Township, Michigan

**Joel Hondorp**  
City Clerk  
Grand Rapids, Michigan

**Chris Swope**  
City Clerk  
Lansing City, Michigan

**Brian Jackson**  
Chief Deputy City Clerk  
Lansing City, Michigan

**Eileen Harryvan**  
Township Clerk  
Township of Southfield, Michigan

**Phil Hatcher**  
Ward Clerk  
Dover, New Hampshire

**Katharine E. Clark**  
County Clerk  
Santa Fe County, New Mexico

**Aaron Ockerman**  
Executive Director  
Ohio Association of Election Officials

**Pamela J. Kerrigan**  
Director  
Shelby County, Ohio

**Bill Burgess**  
County Clerk  
Marion County, Oregon

**Lisa Gambee**  
County Clerk  
Wasco County, Oregon

**Sandra Speroni**  
Town Clerk  
Town of Warren, Rhode Island

**Lynn Parah**  
Town Clerk  
Franklin County, Vermont

**Elizabeth Karle**  
Treasurer  
Mount Holly, Vermont

**Ginger Chiesa**  
Director of Elections & General Registrar  
Buckingham County, Virginia

**Colleen Rummel**  
Absentee Mail Coordinator  
Prince William County, Virginia

**Lisa Brown**  
County Clerk/Register of Deeds  
Oakland County, Michigan

**Savannah Wendeln**  
Election Manager  
Blaine County, Montana

**Glen Mendez**  
Commissioner  
Monmouth County, New Jersey

**Judith L. Garrison**  
Election Commissioner  
Delaware County, New York

**Maureen Dambra**  
Instructional Training Coordinator  
Cuyahoga, Ohio

**Cheryl Seely**  
County Clerk  
Crook County, Oregon

**Tim Scott**  
Director of Elections  
Multnomah County, Oregon

**Christine Du Bois-Buxbaum**  
Precinct Judge of Elections  
Lansdowne, Pennsylvania

**Chelsea Magwire**  
Assistant Town Clerk  
Town of Berlin, Vermont

**Karin S Mott**  
Town Clerk  
Middlebury, Vermont

**Tim Arsenault**  
Town Clerk  
Town of Vernon, Vermont

**Susan Reed**  
Director of Elections  
Manassas City, Virginia

**Sheilah Crider**  
Auditor  
Island County, Washington

**Regina McRay**  
Elections Manager  
Kitsap, Washington

**Dominic Arellano**  
Election Administration Master Student  
Detroit, Michigan

**Lynn Davis**  
Community Organizer  
Tucson/Pima County, Arizona

**Martha Kropf**  
Professor of Political Science and Interim Director  
of Public Policy  
University of North Carolina

**Amber McReynolds**  
Former Election Official  
Colorado

**Brian Michelson**  
Rabbi  
Berks County, Pennsylvania

**Kim Alexander**  
President  
California Voter Foundation

**Jennifer Cohen**  
Temple Sinai  
Montgomery County, Maryland

**Paul Gronke**  
Director of Early Voting Information Center and  
Professor of Political Science  
Reed College

**Carolyn Kubitschek**  
American Voter  
Brooklyn, New York

**Anne Mendoza**  
Elections Expert  
York, Pennsylvania

**Jackie Wu**  
Former Election Official  
Orange County, California

Asian American  
Legal Defense and  
Education Fund



**ACLU**

**APIA VOTE**  
ASIAN & PACIFIC ISLANDER AMERICAN VOTE



CENTER FOR  
TECH AND  
CIVIC LIFE



National Council of Jewish Women

