



March 18, 2022

Honorable Mike DeWine
Governor, State of Ohio
77 South High Street, 30th Floor
Columbus, Ohio 43215

Honorable Matt Huffman
President, Ohio Senate
Ohio Statehouse
Columbus, Ohio 43215

Honorable Robert Cupp
Speaker, Ohio House of Representatives
77 South High Street, 14th Floor
Columbus, Ohio 43215

Honorable Allison Russo
Minority Leader, Ohio House
77 South High Street, 14th Floor
Columbus, Ohio 43215

Honorable Kenny Yuko
Minority Leader, Ohio Senate
Ohio Statehouse
Columbus, OH 43215

Members of the General Assembly
Columbus, Ohio

Dear Colleagues:

Today I finalized an agreement with the U.S. Department of Justice which ensures that Ohio's uniformed and overseas citizens (UOCAVA) will have adequate time to participate in the May 3, 2022 primary election. The terms of this agreement are structured around the actions taken last week by the Ohio General Assembly with the passage of Senate Bill 11, allowing our 88 county boards of elections to expedite the delivery and return of ballots to UOCAVA voters and extending by an additional 10 days the deadline for those ballots to be returned, if they are mailed prior to the close of polls on election day.

To those of you who joined me in working with the U.S. Departments of Justice and Defense, as well as with our bipartisan election officials, I thank you on behalf of our men and women overseas. They have long stood up for us, and I applaud the majority of you who stood up for them. With this agreement in place, the Department of Justice acknowledges these accommodations are sufficient to conduct the primary election as scheduled, and delivery of UOCAVA ballots will begin upon the finalization of the May 3rd ballot. As a result of this week's decision by the Ohio Supreme Court, the process of mailing out UOCAVA ballots is once again delayed. Even with this new delay caused by the court's decision, I anticipate that it can still happen well in advance of the new April 5 deadline created by this agreement and SB11.

Please consider me and my office a resource as you make important decisions that ensure Ohio voters an honest and accessible election.

Yours in service,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Frank LaRose".

Frank LaRose
Ohio Secretary of State