June 28, 2021

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi
Speaker
United States House of Representatives
1236 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Chuck Schumer
Majority Leader
United States Senate
322 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Kevin McCarthy
Minority Leader
United States House of Representatives
2468 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Mitch McConnell
Minority Leader
United States Senate
317 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Speaker Pelosi, Leader Schumer, Leader McCarthy and Leader McConnell:

As mayors from across the United States, we write to urge you to include critical funding for election infrastructure in the infrastructure package Congress is negotiating. Safe and secure elections that are administered with integrity are a cornerstone of our democracy and we strongly encourage you to support this critical and necessary investment.

In 2017, the Department of Homeland Security designated election infrastructure—including the systems, equipment, and facilities needed to administer our country's elections—as a part of the federal government's Critical Infrastructure Sector. While that designation is important, it doesn't solve the serious funding challenges facing most election offices. As we have seen from working closely with elections officials at the local level, these funding challenges have only grown in recent years—from safeguarding databases from cyber security threats to maintaining equipment that is growing more and more outdated. And as with most challenges our communities face, the pandemic only added to this problem.

As Congress considers an infrastructure package, now is the time to make investments in modern and secure election infrastructure of $20 billion over 10 years.

This federal funding will give local election offices the ability to modernize and secure equipment, and the certainty to plan and execute professional, accurate elections for voters for years to come. Just as investing in roads, bridges, and broadband is vital to our country, so is investing in the security and modernization of our elections. We strongly urge you to include funding for secure elections in the infrastructure package.

Sincerely,

Mayor Tom Barrett
Milwaukee, WI

Mayor Steve Adler
Austin, TX

Mayor Christian Bollwage
Elizabeth, NJ

Mayor Luke Bronin
Hartford, CT

Mayor Jane Castor
Tampa, FL

Mayor John E. Dailey
Tallahassee, FL

Mayor Michelle de la Isla
Topeka, KS

Mayor Buddy Dyer
Orlando, FL

Mayor Greg Fischer
Louisville, KY

Mayor Kate Gallego
Phoenix, AZ

Mayor Erich Grenrich
Green Bay, WI

Mayor Michael Hancock
Denver, CO

Mayor Wade Kapszukiewicz
Toledo, OH

Mayor John Giles
Mesa, AZ

Mayor Stephen Benjamin
Columbia, SC

Mayor Muriel Bowser
Washington, DC

Mayor Melvin Carter
St. Paul, MN

Mayor Joyce Craig
Manchester, NH

Mayor Hardie Davis, Jr.
Augusta, GA

Mayor Mike Duggan
Detroit, MI

Mayor Jorge Elorza
Providence, RI

Mayor Jacob Frey
Minneapolis, MN

Mayor Robert Garcia
Long Beach, CA

Mayor Andrew Ginther
Columbus, OH

Mayor Eric Johnson
Dallas, TX

Mayor Elizabeth Kautz
Burnsville, MN

Mayor Tim Keller
Albuquerque, NM

Mayor Rick Kriseman
St. Petersburg, FL

Mayor Lori Lightfoot
Chicago, IL

Mayor Thomas McGee
Lynn, MA

Mayor Ron Nirenberg
San Antonio, TX

Mayor Regina Romero
Tucson, AZ

Mayor Libby Schaaf
Oakland, CA

Mayor Kathy Sheehan
Albany, NY

Mayor Yvonne Spicer
Framingham, MA

Mayor Levar Stoney
Richmond, VA

Mayor Sharon Weston Broome
Baton Rouge, LA

Mayor Ted Wheeler
Portland, OR

Mayor Nan Whaley
Dayton, OH

Mayor Jim Kenney
Philadelphia, PA

Mayor Keisha Lance Bottoms
Atlanta, GA

Mayor Cory Mason
Racine, WI

Mayor Jon Mitchell
New Bedford, MA

Mayor Satya Rhodes-Conway
Madison, WI

Mayor Katie Rosenberg
Wausau, WI

Mayor Hillary Schieve
Reno, NV

Mayor Brandon M. Scott
Baltimore, MD

Mayor Kate Snyder
Portland, ME

Mayor Ryan Sorenson
Sheboygan, WI

Mayor John Tecklenburg
Charleston, SC

Mayor Miro Weinberger
Burlington, VT

Cc: President Joe Biden
Vice President Kamala Harris