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One Hundred Nineteenth  
Congress of the United States  
House of Representatives

COMMITTEE ON HOUSE ADMINISTRATION  
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May 26, 2026

Jared DeMarinis  
State Administrator  
Maryland State Board of Elections  
151 West Street, Suite 200  
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Administrator DeMarinis:

The Committee on House Administration (Committee) has broad oversight of federal elections.<sup>1</sup> Oversight of federal elections is critical to safeguard the integrity of America's electoral system. Your office, the Maryland State Board of Elections (SBOE), recently reported a vendor error that resulted in many voters receiving the wrong party ballot.<sup>2</sup> This issue merits careful attention and assurance that it will not recur. The Committee is therefore seeking information from the Maryland State Board of Elections.

On May 5, 2026, your office announced that 565,639 voters requested mail-in ballots for the 2026 primary election.<sup>3</sup> Following the first phase of mailing ballots, a grave error was discovered: a printing and mailing vendor distributed incorrect party ballots to an unknown number of voters for the June 23 primary election.<sup>4</sup> Because the number of incorrect ballots could not be determined, the SBOE announced it would preemptively send replacement ballots to every voter who requested a mail-in ballot.<sup>5</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Rules of the House of Representatives, Rule X (K) Committee on House Administration.

<sup>2</sup> Maryland State Board of Elections, Press Statement, *Maryland State Board of Elections Addresses an Error with Mail-In Ballots* (May 15, 2026), available at [https://elections.maryland.gov/press\\_room/documents/2026/Mail\\_in\\_Ballot\\_Press\\_Statement.pdf](https://elections.maryland.gov/press_room/documents/2026/Mail_in_Ballot_Press_Statement.pdf).

<sup>3</sup> Maryland State Board of Elections, Press Statement, *Maryland State Board of Elections Announces 565,639 Voters Have Requested Mail-In Ballots for the 2026 Primary Election* (May 5, 2026), available at [https://elections.maryland.gov/press\\_room/documents/2026/SBE\\_Total\\_Mail\\_In\\_Ballots\\_Requested\\_May\\_2026.pdf](https://elections.maryland.gov/press_room/documents/2026/SBE_Total_Mail_In_Ballots_Requested_May_2026.pdf)

<sup>4</sup> See Robert Lang, *Maryland State Board of Elections to replace incorrect mail-in ballots after printing glitch*, WBAL NEWS RADIO 1090 & FM 101.5 (May 19, 2026), available at <https://www.wbal.com/state-unveils-ballot-replacement-plan>.

<sup>5</sup> Maryland State Board of Elections, Press Statement, *Maryland State Board of Elections Addresses an Error with Mail-In Ballots* (May 15, 2026), available at [https://elections.maryland.gov/press\\_room/documents/2026/Mail\\_in\\_Ballot\\_Press\\_Statement.pdf](https://elections.maryland.gov/press_room/documents/2026/Mail_in_Ballot_Press_Statement.pdf).

While the SBOE is taking precautions to void the initial batch of ballots, distributing over half a million additional replacement ballots risks creating immense logistical strain and potentially undermines public confidence in the nation's elections.<sup>6</sup> These systemic errors raise concerns over pre-distribution auditing and state oversight of critical third-party contractors.

Based on this information, the Committee is concerned about the administration, tracking, and security of Maryland's mail-in voting processes, and whether adequate safeguards are in place for the upcoming general election. To assist the Committee's oversight of this matter, please provide the following information as soon as possible, but no later than June 9, 2026:

1. What specific mechanical, digital, or procedural error within the third-party vendor's system caused the mail-in ballot error?
2. What protocols does the SBOE have in place to audit and verify the accuracy of mail-in ballots *prior* to distribution, and does the SBOE plan to alter these protocols given this incident?
3. How many of the approximately 565,000 original ballots are estimated to be incorrect?
4. If a voter returns only the original, incorrect mail-in ballot, is the entire ballot discarded, such that none of the voter's selections are counted?
5. What corrective actions or contractual changes is the SBOE implementing to prevent similar vendor errors in the future?
6. Has the SBOE launched a formal internal investigation into this incident? If yes, what are the preliminary findings?
7. How will the SBOE ensure a similar incident does not occur prior to the November general election?

If you have any questions, please contact the Committee at 202-225-8281. Thank you for your prompt attention to this matter.

Sincerely,



Bryan Steil  
Chairman  
Committee on House Administration

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<sup>6</sup> See Rebecca Pryor, *Maryland ballot error draws new scrutiny as watchdog questions state's response*, FOX45 NEWS (May 20, 2026).

Administrator DeMarinis

May 26, 2026

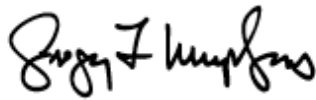
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Chair, Subcommittee on Elections  
Committee on House Administration



H. Morgan Griffith  
Member of Congress  
Committee on House Administration



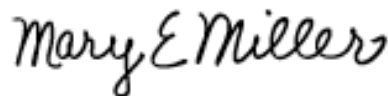
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Mike Carey  
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Mary E. Miller  
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cc: The Honorable Joseph Morelle, Ranking Member