

William G. "Bill" Herbkersman

896 May River Road

Bluffton South Carolina 29910-5833

Dear Representative Herbkersman,

Good day and thank you for reading my letter. I am your constituent (living in Sun City / Bluffton) and I am one of many people, liberal or conservative, who are deeply concerned about the upcoming elections. This concern is principally about the potential spread of disease, but also about ensuring the constitutional rights of all voters to vote unhindered by personal or unethical constraints. Five states, from differing political majorities, have safely and effectively voted by mail for years. Why not South Carolina?

I have seen the disaster in Wisconsin's recent vote, and allowing that to happen in South Carolina in an era of pandemics is unconscionable. The military has voted by mail from around the world successfully for decades, why not in South Carolina?

If rules have to change to extend the time required for ballot counting, that is no big deal. What is a big deal is threatening public health, and diminishing the opportunity for all citizens to easily participate in democracy's greatest privilege. Why not establish South Carolina as a beacon of democracy by establishing across the board voting by mail?

I will be watching your position on this matter. Many people across the state will be watching your position on this matter. We all vote. Why not protect the safety of our citizens? Why not protect the sanctity of the voting process? Why not voting by mail across South Carolina?

Sincerely,

Patrick J. (Jerry) Whalen

41 Columbus Circle

Bluffton SC 29909