

October 25, 2016

Honorable Tre Hargett  
Tennessee Secretary of State  
Elections Department  
312 Rosa L. Parks Avenue  
7th Floor, Snodgrass Tower  
Nashville, TN 37243-1102

Re: National Voter Registration Act Violation Concerning Purging Voters

Dear Secretary Hargett:

As you are aware, The U.S. Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit ruled that Ohio's practice of purging voters for failure to vote is in violation of the National Voter Registration Act. The League of Women Voters of Tennessee notes that Tennessee's practice mirrors the practice in Ohio that has been ruled illegal.

We are anxious to discuss the impact of the Ohio ruling on the practice in Tennessee and in particular, whether Tennessee can do something similar to Ohio to enable Tennesseans affected by this illegal purging to vote in the November 8 election. In the Ohio case, the judge ordered provisional voting for those citizens possibly purged in this manner so that the votes for those confirmed to have been purged only for not voting can be counted.

We are aware that Demos has sent you formal communication providing notice of violation of the National Voter Registration Act. We believe that they, like the League of Women Voters of Tennessee, are very willing to quickly resolve this matter so no that Tennessean loses his or her right to vote in the November 8 election.

We urge you and your staff to begin immediately to address this issue and to contact Demos and/or the League of Women Voters of Tennessee. I can be reached at 615-812-8462.

Sincerely,

Marian Ott  
President

CC: Governor Haslam  
Speaker Harwell  
Lieutenant Governor Ramsey  
TN Election Administrator Goins  
TN Election Commission