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Dear Secretary Read:

We write to you as the chief election official for the State of Oregon regarding the state's plans for compliance in 2026 with the Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act ("UOCAVA"), 52 U.S.C. §§ 20301 to 20311.

As part of our nationwide UOCAVA enforcement program, we are assessing states' efforts to ensure compliance in 2026. We would appreciate an opportunity to discuss Oregon's preparations for UOCAVA compliance in next year's federal election cycle and any recent UOCAVA-related changes Oregon has adopted. To that end, we will contact your office in the near future to schedule a telephone conference with the relevant state officials. If there is a specific date that works for your office in the next few weeks, please let us know, and we can coordinate a time to speak.

As you know, one of the key provisions of UOCAVA requires that ballots be transmitted to eligible uniformed services voters and overseas voters no later than the 45th day before any election for federal office, including for the upcoming federal primary elections and any subsequent federal runoff elections that may be required, and any special election to fill a vacancy in federal office. As a reminder, when the 45th day before a federal election falls on a Saturday, as it typically does, then the ballots must be transmitted by no later than that 45th day. Pursuant to our UOCAVA enforcement authority, we will request, as we have in prior election cycles, that your office monitor the transmission of absentee ballots to UOCAVA voters to ensure that ballots are sent by Oregon's local jurisdictions by the 45th-day deadline, and we will ask that you provide us with a summary report by the 43rd day before a federal election confirming whether each local jurisdiction sent its ballots by the deadline. We have attached template summary report spreadsheets you can utilize for 1) primary elections, and 2) general elections, along with 3) instructions for completing the summary report spreadsheets and 4) a sample.

We would also like to remind you of the requirement to verify the driver's license and social security numbers. As mandated by the Help America Vote Act (HAVA), an applicant for voter registration for a federal election may not be accepted unless the applicant—including a UOCAVA applicant—provides their state issued driver's license number, or if the applicant indicates that they have not been issued a driver's license, the applicant must provide the last four digits of their Social Security number. If the applicant has not been issued a driver's license or social security number, that must be indicated on the registration form. Election officials must verify the accuracy of the information provided by the applicant by matching the driver's license or Social Security number to a government database. 52 U.S.C. § 21083(a)(5).

We greatly appreciate your cooperation in our continuing efforts to ensure that military and overseas voters are afforded the voting opportunities guaranteed under UOCAVA. We know you share our commitment to full compliance with UOCAVA in the upcoming election cycle and look forward to working with you to achieve that goal.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us by email or by telephone at [Brittany.bennett@usdoj.gov](mailto:Brittany.bennett@usdoj.gov) or [Voting.Section@usdoj.gov](mailto:Voting.Section@usdoj.gov), or (202) 307-2767 or toll-free at (800) 253-3931.

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