

**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**  
**Washington, DC 20515-1803**

August 31, 2020

Governor John Bel Edwards  
Office of the Governor  
PO Box 94004  
Baton Rouge, LA 70804

Governor Edwards,

As you are aware, Hurricane Laura has devastated many parishes of our state and forced many residents of Louisiana to have to leave their homes. As we focus now on the recovery efforts, providing for the needs of our constituents, and trying to restore services as soon as possible, we must ensure that voters in hard-hit areas are able to participate in the November 3, 2020 federal election.

The creation of an emergency plan to provide for the needs of the devastated portions of Louisiana in successfully executing the upcoming election needs to be established now so that it can be implemented in time. I implore you to support Louisiana Secretary of State Kyle Ardoin and his staff's efforts to craft a non-partisan plan. The Secretary and his staff are well versed with the electoral needs of areas that have been devastated by natural disasters. I hope that you will allow him as much autonomy as possible in creating a plan in the aftermath of this latest storm.

I am aware that you and he have had disagreements over the most recently presented emergency plan concerning the public health emergency we are also facing, but I trust that you will allow that issue to play out in the court system. The logistical issues facing our state as a result of Hurricane Laura are vastly different than our current COVID-19 situation, with only a short period of time left to come up with the necessary solutions.

Our state is in the midst of an incredibly challenging time. Some of our citizens have lost everything, including loved ones. They now turn to their elected officials for leadership. I am prayerful that you will allow Secretary Ardoin to do the job he was elected for. Let him provide the resources necessary and develop a solid plan that will allow the people of Louisiana to exercise their right to vote in the November 3, 2020 election.

Respectfully,



Clay Higgins  
Member of Congress

CC:

Clay Schexnayder, Speaker of the House  
Paige Cortez, President of the Senate  
Secretary of State Kyle Ardoin  
Sen. Mark Abraham (Dist. 25)  
Sen. Bob Hensgens (Dist. 26)  
Sen. Ronnie Johns (Dist. 27)  
Sen. Heather Cloud (Dist. 28)  
Sen. Jay Luneau (Dist. 29)  
Sen. Mike Reese (Dist. 30)  
Sen. Louie Bernard (Dist. 31)  
Sen. Glen Womack (Dist. 32)  
Sen. Stewart Cathey Jr. (Dist. 33)  
Sen. Katrina Jackson (Dist. 34)  
Sen. Jay Morris (Dist. 35)  
Sen. Robert Mills (Dist. 36)  
Rep. Lawrence A "Larry" Bagley (Dist. 7)  
Rep. Patrick O. Jefferson (Dist. 11)  
Rep. Christopher Turner (Dist. 12)  
Rep. Jack G. McFarland (Dist. 13)  
Rep. Michael Charles Echols (Dist. 14)  
Rep. Bryan Gadberry (Dist. 15)  
Rep. Frederick Douglass Jones (Dist. 16)  
Rep. Patricia Moore (Dist. 17)  
Rep. Francis C. Thompson (Dist. 19)  
Rep. Neil Riser (Dist. 20)  
Rep. C. Travis Johnson (Dist. 21)  
Rep. Michael "Gabe" Firment (Dist. 22)  
Rep. Kenny R. Cox (Dist. 23)  
Rep. Rodney Wayne Schamerhorn (Dist. 24)  
Rep. Lance Harris (Dist. 25)  
Rep. Ed Larvadain (Dist. 26)  
Rep. Michael T. Johnson (Dist. 27)  
Rep. Charles Anthony Owen (Dist. 30)  
Rep. Jonathon Goudeau (Dist. 31)  
Rep. Dewith Carrier (Dist. 32)  
Rep. Les Farnum (Dist. 33)  
Rep. Wilford Dan Carter, Sr. (Dist. 34)  
Rep. Stephen C. Dwight (Dist. 35)  
Rep. Phillip Eric Tarver (Dist. 36)  
Rep. Troy D. Romero (Dist. 37)  
Rep. Phillip R. DeVillier (Dist. 41)  
Rep. John M. Stefanski (Dist. 42)  
Rep. Ryan Joseph Bourriaque (Dist. 47)  
Rep. Blake Miguez (Dist. 49)