DECLARATION OF JEN MILLER
(pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1746)

I, Jen Miller, am over the age of 18 and fully competent to make the following declaration:

1. Since H.B. 197 was passed into law my staff members, both full-time and part-time, are fielding calls from members, local league leaders, and voters who are confused about the new process set forth under H.B. 197.

2. My staff members have received calls from voters who do not know that they have to request an absentee ballot and have asked whether their boards of elections will automatically mail out ballots to them.

3. My staff members continue to field calls from voters who do not know how to request absentee ballots, express confusion as to which address they must mail their ballots, and express frustration because they remain uncertain as to the date of the election. I am aware that many voters still think the election deadline is June 2.

4. My staff members and I have answered questions from voters who have never voted by mail and who have never attempted to use the online application form now on the Secretary of State’s website, https://www.ohiosos.gov/elections/voters/absentee-ballot/. In trying to fill out this online form now, many of these voters believe that once they fill out the online form, it will it is automatically submitted to the Secretary of State and local boards of elections. My staff members must educate these voters that they still have to print out the application form and mail it to their boards of elections.

5. My staff members and I have received calls from voters who have never voted by mail and have filled in the address of their polling location instead of where they are registered to vote on the absentee application form.
6. I am aware of at least several voters who requested their absentee ballots on March 20 and March 21 and still have not received their ballots. These voters have asked my staff and I whether they should reapply for absentee ballots and physically take the requests into their boards of elections. They do not want to miss the chance to vote by the new election date, April 28.

7. I am aware that postage for the absentee requests continues to be a problem for many. My staff and I have fielded calls from voters who have asked how they can get postage and asked if we might be able to get them postage so that they can mail out their absentee requests to their boards of elections.

8. During member meetings with our local league leaders, I have become aware of the challenges that local leaders are facing with educating community members about the multi-step, cumbersome process set forth under H.B. 197.

9. In addition, many local league leaders have reported that their boards of elections are slow to answer phones or may not answer phones at all, meaning that voters are unable to request absentee ballot applications to be mailed to them or to verify that their applications were received and/or approved. This has caused an extreme degree of confusion among voters.

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.


Jen Miller