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JOHN H. MERRILL  
SECRETARY OF STATE

September 26, 2017

This morning, reports from several voting locations have indicated that poll workers have been identified assisting or allowing voters that were marked as having cast a ballot for a democratic candidate in the primary on August 15<sup>th</sup> to vote a Republican ballot. This letter is intended to serve as a reminder that this is voter fraud.

The Alabama Legislature prescribed this process when they passed Act No. 2017-340, which prescribed into law procedures to limit cross party candidate selection. Specifically, the law states:

“If an elector votes in a primary election, he or she may vote in a subsequent primary runoff election only if he or she voted in the primary election of the same political party for which the runoff election is being held.”

Any person who votes or knowingly attempts to vote or assists another person in voting when they were not entitled to do so shall be guilty upon conviction of a Class C felony. A Class C felony carries a sentence of not less than one year and one day and not more than ten years imprisonment and may include a fine not to exceed \$15,000.

While I was campaigning for office, I made a commitment to the people of Alabama that any instance in which someone was reported as having violated the law would be investigated, indicted, and prosecuted to the fullest extent of the law. We will continue that practice with this election, and all reported incidents will be investigated.

The integrity of the elections process is at stake today, and we will not allow nor will we tolerate efforts to assist people who have such reckless disregard for the process and are willing to lie their way to a felony conviction.

If you observe this activity or any other form of voter fraud, please do not hesitate to call (334) 242-7210 or 1(800) 274-8683 or go online to [stopvoterfraudnow.com](http://stopvoterfraudnow.com).

Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of John H. Merrill in black ink.  
John H. Merrill

Alabama Secretary of State