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THE SENATE  
STATE OF NEW YORK

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Hon. Joseph P. Addabbo, Jr.  
New York State Senate  
815 Legislative Office Building  
Albany, NY 122247

Dear Senator Addabbo:

Thank you for inviting me to participate in the upcoming Public Hearing which the Senate Elections Committee will be holding in Manhattan next week.


I agree that the widespread reports of voting problems throughout the State during the Primary Day vote merits a timely investigation in order to identify solutions to implement by Election Day.

As you recall, earlier in the summer, I requested a series of hearings across the state due to concerns over the new voting equipment and procedures. In your capacity as Chairman, I would request that you also schedule hearings now to be held in upstate areas so as to provide the Committee with a balanced and thorough view of the voting concerns that occurred earlier this month.

While New York City's voting issues may be a priority concern of the Chair, we would be remiss if we neglected other regions in the State that may have experienced similar issues. Other New York regions deserve to be included in these hearings. In that way, we would be able to formulate legislative remedies, or appropriate proposals, or more standardized procedures that could be applied immediately Statewide. Hearings that fail to receive input from the other regions of New York State cannot claim to be hearings that have faithfully sought and heard the input from the people of all parts of New York State.

I strongly encourage you to set a time, date and place as soon as possible so that a cross-section of New Yorkers can exercise one of the foremost rights in our democracy – that of speaking to their elected leaders regarding the inalienable right to vote.

Sincerely,

  
Joseph A. Griffo  
Senator

