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**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**

**COMMITTEE ON HOUSE ADMINISTRATION**

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ONE HUNDRED TWELFTH  
CONGRESS

JAMIE FLEET, MINORITY STAFF DIRECTOR

December 12, 2012

The President  
The White House  
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW  
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President:

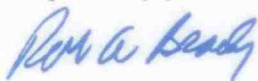
Congratulations on your reelection. I look forward to continuing our work together to address and rectify the issues facing our nation. I commend you for giving one of those issues a national platform in your victory speech: The need to reform of our electoral system.

As ranking Democratic Member and former Chairman of the Committee on House Administration, I have worked diligently, with Members from both sides of the aisle, to nurture and protect one of our most precious rights: the right to vote. Unfortunately, many lawmakers at the state and federal level seem to have dreadfully short memories, as this right is under assault. Whether it's strict laws requiring identification to vote or arbitrary impediments to voter registration efforts, we must confront any attempt to unfairly limit the constitutionally-protected right to vote. From the Civil War amendments to the Civil Rights Movement, expanding the franchise came at great cost and we cannot afford to go backwards now. We have made historic strides but we are not finished yet.

More recently, voters encountered unreasonably long lines, a severe lack of adequately trained poll workers and functioning machines, and reduced options for casting a ballot, needlessly requiring many to choose between voting and meeting other daily obligations. It is unconscionable to allow such problems to prevent anyone from casting a ballot.

The 2014 midterm election is already nearly upon us and it is imperative that we continue to keep this issue at the forefront of debate. I urge you to continue to use your considerable and far-reaching platform to bring attention to the need for electoral reform. Without public attention and pressure I fear we are doomed to repeat the mistakes of the past. I share in your commitment to protect the right to vote and I look forward to working with you to achieve our common goal of free and equal access to the ballot.

Respectfully yours,



Robert A. Brady  
Ranking Minority Member