



September 26, 2023

Frank LaRose
Office of the Ohio Secretary of State
180 E Broad Street
Columbus, OH
43215

Secretary LaRose,

We are writing today with concern due to recent reports that you, in your official capacity as Secretary of State, plan to move the Secretary of State's office for the first time in nearly two decades to the same building where you are currently running your campaign for Senate.

Reports from multiple news outlets have noted that your decision to move the official Secretary of State office will cost taxpayers \$600,000 – which will take taxpayers until 2077 to recoup. Additionally, independent ethics experts have noted that your decision raises “ethics red flags” including “real concern about co-mingling” your official responsibilities with your campaign business.

Out of concern for our constituents, we are requesting additional information about the process you followed to identify a new location for the Secretary of State's office. Despite your claims that your decision to move your official office to the same location as your Senate campaign is “completely incidental,” several key questions remain unanswered.

Out of respect for Ohioans, we respectfully request you provide clear, public answers to the following questions:

1. Your office has not provided information regarding the process for how you decided to move the Secretary of State's office to the same location registered for your Senate campaign. Will you provide the full details for the process for deciding to move the office, including how many properties – including their respective costs per square foot compared to the office space located at 200 Civic Center Drive – were considered?

2. Your office has not provided information regarding the timeline for your decision to move the Secretary of State's office. When did you make the decision to move your official office to 200 Civic Center Drive in relation to when you began thinking about running for Senate?
3. NBC4 reporting indicates you requested to bypass the standard competitive selection process to choose 200 Civic Center Drive as the new location for the Secretary of State's office. Will you release all documentation from your office pertaining to your request to bypass the standard process to move the Secretary of State's office to the same building as your Senate campaign?

We trust this request will reach you with the urgency it warrants. As elected officials, we owe Ohioans complete transparency into how their tax dollars are spent, especially when related to political campaigns.

Respectfully,



William P. DeMora
Ohio Senate District 25



Nickie J. Antonio
Minority Leader
Ohio Senate District 23



Alison Russo
Minority Leader
Ohio House District 7



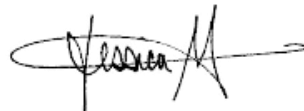
Dontavius Jarrells
Assistant Minority Leader
Ohio House District 1



Kent K. Smith
Minority Whip
Ohio Senate District 21



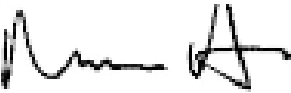
Paula Hicks-Hudson
Assistant Minority Whip
Ohio Senate District 11



Jessica Miranda
Minority Whip
Ohio House District 28



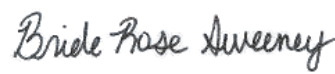
Tavia Galonski
Assistant Minority Whip
Ohio House District 33



Munira Abdullahi
Ohio House District 9



Anita Somani, M.D.
Ohio House District 11



Bride Rose Sweeney
Ohio House District 16



Elliot Forhan
Ohio House District 21



Rachel Baker
Ohio House District 27