

State Administration and Veterans' Affairs Interim Committee

PO BOX 201706 Helena, MT 59620-1706 (406) 444-3064 FAX (406) 444-3036

68th Montana Legislature

SENATE MEMBERS
MIKE CUFFE
JANET ELLIS
FORREST MANDEVILLE
WENDY MCKAMEY

HOUSE MEMBERS
MARTA BERTOGLIO
JULIE DOOLING - Chair
ROSS FITZGERALD
GREGORY FRAZER
KELLY KORTUM - Vice Chair
ED STAFMAN

COMMITTEE STAFF
REBECCA POWER, Lead Staff
ANDRIA HARDIN, Staff Attorney
LJ JENNINGS. Secretary

November 9, 2023

The Honorable Christi Jacobsen Montana Secretary of State P.O. Box 20280 Helena, MT 59620-2801

Dear Secretary of State Jacobsen,

At its November 9, 2023, meeting, a majority of the members of the State Administration and Veterans' Affairs Interim Committee (SAVA) objected to Montana Administrative Register (MAR) Notice No. 44-2-268. This notice relates to the Secretary of State's proposed amendment to ARM 44.3.2408 relating to ballot form and uniformity.

The SAVA made its objection under Montana Code Annotated section <u>2-4-305(9)</u>. This statute requires the Secretary of State's Office to delay the adoption of the proposed amendment until at least the next SAVA meeting. Please note that at its next meeting SAVA would like to take a closer look at proposed amendments to ARM 44.3.2408, relating to the Ballot Layout Guide. The next meeting of the SAVA is currently set for January 25, 2024.

Thank you for your attention in this matter.

Sincerely

Representative Julie Dooling, Presiding Officer

cc:

Austin Markus James, Esq. (via e-mail)

Angela Nunn, Chief Deputy Montana Secretary of State (via e-mail)