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From the Desk of Jared DeMarinis, State Administrator of Elections

The State Board is working diligently to resolve this situation and restore voter confidence. We focus only on providing voters with factual information. The facts are:

1. Mail-in voting is a legal, secure, and transparent voting method.
2. SBE has safeguards to ensure one vote is counted.
3. Mail-in voting is not a partisan issue. Whether in the primary, as in this case, or the general election, voting methods are not partisan.

Clarifying Points from Previous Message:

- It was previously stated “return the replacement ballot in the envelope marked "Replacement Envelope" by 8 p.m. on Election Day, June 23, 2026 — by mail, drop box, or at any polling place or local board of elections.” We want to make it clear that if you are choosing to return your ballot by mail, it needs to be **postmarked** by Election Day, June 23, 2026
- It was previously stated “Vote the replacement ballot — even if you already returned your first ballot. Destroy the original.” We want to make it clear that you should destroy the original ballot if it is still in your possession. If you have already voted the original ballot, it will be tracked and quarantined at the local board of elections.

Outreach to Mail-in voters who have returned the original ballot:

A voter who returns their original ballot will be contacted directly by mail and by email, if in their voter file, that they should still return their replacement ballot. This notice will be different from the other general notices regarding the mail-in ballot information. More information will be available next week.

Schedule for Delivery:

Replacement Ballots delivery has commenced. Replacement ballots have been sent to voters in Allegany County. The vendor is continually printing replacement ballot packets in an alphabetical order. Printing will continue over the weekend. We will be able to share the

remaining counties delivery schedule next Tuesday following Memorial Day weekend. All replacement ballots will be issued and sent no later than May 29, 2026.

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