

California Political news Memo

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PLSI- 373-01

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October 22, 2020

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Title: California Attorney general asks court to order GOP cooperation in ballot box investigations. <https://www.latimes.com/california/story/2020-10-20/california-attorney-general-gop-republican-ballot-drop-boxes-investigation>

Author: John Myers

Publication: Los Angeles Times

Summary

The article addresses the California Attorney General's attempts to seek a court order to force state republican officials to hand out private drop boxes information. The party is accused of using drop boxes as collecting ballots in certain counties. However, Republican Party leaders have emphasized that the program adheres to set rules and regulations. They accused the attorney general and secretary of state of a partisan investigation (Myers, 2020). What followed was a series of heated public utterances between the two democratic officials and republicans. According to state laws, voters' can designate an individual to handle a ballot, but county elections officials can only operate drop boxes. Social media have circulating postings of containers labeled "official drop box," which forced the election officials to send a letter to the republican to end and remove the signs. According to a released memo, the republicans violated laws on ballot collection. A complaint filed by the attorney general mentioned that the drop boxes are categorized as official and authorized, yet they are not.

Analysis

On Tuesday, 20th October, California woke up to registered voters mailing boxes chaos. Republicans spread mailboxes across California and certain counties, saying that voters can mail back their ballots or return them to official drop box. They claimed the process is antifraud because the original voter fills ballots, and tampering is hindered (Myers, 2020). However, CNN investigations noticed that the mailboxes were only deployed in competitive houses races areas. Election officials had raised alarms of the deceptive boxes. Republican defense on the makeshift drop boxes is that they wanted to collect ballots and return them to the election official. This practice is very unconstitutional and fraudulent. Recently, President Donald triumphs criticized email voting, saying it is prone to fraud. However, the Republicans have long relied on email voting to attain votes.

The Republicans are likely trying their luck in what is legally permissible. Another example is how they recently tried to send unauthorized voting watchers to Philadelphia's voting sites. According to experts' analysis, they know that the drop box will cause problems and choose to progress with the chaos (Myers. 2020). The aim is to weaken public confidence in the vote-by-mail procedure. Their idea is to impart a clear political strategy by first testing the waters to determine the strategy's effectiveness. Overall, it is only the Republican Party members who are the bag holders.

Since the coronavirus pandemic started, many states and local governments controlled by democrats have suggested the use of drop boxes. They consider it a safe alternative to voting in person during this pandemic. They also consider them as alternatives to postal services due to long delays and the likelihood of losing ballots. In retaliation, the democrats have termed the process fraudulent. With that, the republicans have strategically used the drop boxes and tried to limit their use using lawsuits and court orders. The battles continue as the republicans contend

that their actions are legal. The Triumph campaign continues to issue orders banning the use of drop box. He thinks there will be fraud, yet the republicans defend the accusations saying the boxes are safe and the democrats are seeking opportunities to steal.

Reference

Myers, J. (2020, October 20). *California attorney general asks court to order GOP cooperation in ballot box investigation*. Los Angeles Times.
<https://www.latimes.com/california/story/2020-10-20/california-attorney-general-gop-republican-ballot-drop-boxes-investigation>