



Washington
Secretary of State
SAM REED

Legislative Building
PO Box 40220
Olympia, WA 98504-0220
Tel 360.902.4151
Fax 360.586.5629
www.secstate.wa.gov

March 3, 2009

Chairman Michael Steele
Republican National Committee
310 First Street
Washington, DC 20003

Dear Chairman Steele,

I would like to sincerely congratulate you on your recent election. As one of the more senior Republican Secretaries of State in our nation, responsible for state and local elections for 31 years, I write to you to offer my assistance with one of the leading issues facing you as Chairman of the Republican National Committee.

It is vital we understand the importance of the presidential primary process to the citizens of our country. Presidential primaries bring candidates to the states, allowing for more personal contact with voters and relying less on expensive ad campaigns. In turn, the electorate is more engaged and more involved. We all agree that the last presidential primary process started too early. Rather than a system where states are front loading the calendar and candidates are dashing across the country, not spending more than a day in one state, we owe it to the electorate to come up with a more rational and organized process.

The Temporary Delegate Selection Committee, wisely created by our party, helps to address the major problems brought to light in the past several presidential primary calendars. I strongly encourage you to appoint Secretaries of State to this committee. It only makes sense to have people that are knowledgeable about the process and election procedures participating in creating the solutions to these problems. National Association of Secretaries of State President, Kentucky Secretary of State Trey Grayson is a great choice. In addition, I would like to offer up myself considering the depth and breadth of my experience in elections.

I appreciate your consideration on this matter and look forward to assisting you with the important decisions facing our party in terms of the presidential nominating process.

Sincerely,

SAM REED
Secretary of State

Cc: Trey Grayson, Kentucky Secretary of State

David Norcross, RNC Rules Committee Chair
Luke Esser, Washington State Republican Party Chair
Fred Simpson, National Committeewoman