Rockingham County Virginia Republican Committee

**Resolution for Virginia to Terminate Membership in the Electronic Registration Information Center (ERIC)**

WHEREAS, the Rockingham County Republican Committee’s mission includes promoting protection of the rights and privacy of each legally-registered voter in Virginia and the integrity of each legal vote;

WHEREAS, the integrity of voter rolls is a fundamental component of said protection of voter rights such that accurate and up-to-date voter rolls are essential to prevent the dilution of each legal vote cast;

WHEREAS, the Electronic Registration Information Center (ERIC), a private 501(c)(3) organization which claims 31 states and the District of Columbia as member states according to its website, has stated that its “sole mission [is] assisting states to improve the accuracy of America’s voter rolls and increase access to voter registration for all eligible citizens,” and yet reports only three employees and has no physical location; and

WHEREAS, ERIC receives Personally Identifiable Information of citizens and minors regardless of voting status from those states’ departments of motor vehicles; and

WHEREAS, the ERIC membership agreement requires that every sixty (60) days, each member state shall transmit all inactive and active voter files and all licensing or identification records contained in the motor vehicles database, including:

• all name fields

• all address fields

• driver’s license or state ID number

• last four digits of Social Security number

• date of birth

• activity dates as defined by the Board of Directors

• current record status

• affirmative documentation of citizenship

• the title/type of affirmative documentation of citizenship presented

• phone number

• e-mail address or other electronic contact method; and

WHEREAS, ERIC states in its membership agreement that “under no circumstances shall the member transmit an individual’s record where the record contains documentation or other information indicating that the individual is a non-citizen of the United States” yet, without that information ERIC is unable to perform a portion of the services for which it is contracted; and

WHEREAS, ERIC has violated the security of violated registrants’ data by transmitting state data to third parties, such as the Center for Election Innovation and Research, whose data practices and usage are unknown to the Commonwealth of Virginia and its citizens, and ERIC prohibits states from auditing its own work or that of any third-party vendor; and

WHEREAS, ERIC’s relationship with other non-government organizations is a way around Virginia Law 24.2-124.1. Acceptance of certain gifts and funding prohibited that reads: “The State Board, the Department, each local electoral board, and all offices of the general registrar shall not solicit, accept, use, or dispose of any money, grants, property, or services given by a private individual or nongovernmental entity for the purpose of funding voter education and outreach programs, **voter registration programs [emphasis added],** or any other expense incurred in the conduct of elections.”

WHEREAS, ERIC provides data regarding eligible or possibly eligible citizens who are not registered to vote, stating that, “the Member shall, at a minimum, initiate contact with each and every eligible or possibly eligible citizen and inform them how to register to vote. Each Member shall have until October 1 or fifteen (15) days before the close of registration, whichever is earlier, of the next Federal General Election year to initiate contact with at least 95% of the eligible or potentially eligible citizens on whom data was provided and address validation was performed”; and

WHEREAS, ERIC gives little focus to removing or identifying ineligible voters as required by Virginia law; and

WHEREAS, recommendations of good faith reforms by a bipartisan group of ERIC member states, formed in 2022, that would improve oversight and governance, reduce participation from partisan ex-officio members of the Board, allow à la carte selection of member services from ERIC, and improve the security and protection of states’ citizens’ private information have not been acted upon by the Officers and Board of ERIC; and

WHEREAS, this lack of action has resulted in a loss of confidence and withdrawal from ERIC membership by six states since January 1, 2023, with the potential for additional withdrawals Florida, Missouri and West Virginia in March 2023; and

WHEREAS, ERIC’s stated benefits include reducing state voter roll maintenance workload and improving voter roll accuracy, ERIC has imposed reporting requirements such that workload is increased while analysis of some member states’ voter rolls’ integrity show no or de minimus benefit; and

WHEREAS, the benefit of ERIC membership and its ability to achieve its stated mission continues to diminish with the withdrawal of membership of other States; and

WHEREAS, withdrawal from ERIC of those states adjacent to Virginia continues to degrade data integrity and increase inability to provide data directed at preventing cross-border voting; and

WHEREAS, the members of the Rockingham County Republican Committee have lost confidence in ERIC’s ability to be an effective and accurate source of voter roll data for maintaining accurate and up-to-date Virginia voter rolls; therefore, be it therefore

RESOLVED, that the Rockingham County Republican Committee supports withdrawal of the Commonwealth of Virginia from membership in the Electronic Registration Information Center (ERIC); and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Chairman of the Rockingham County Republican Committee

shall cause copies of this resolution to be disseminated to all members of the Virginia State Board of Election, the Virginia Commissioner of Elections, the Virginia Secretary of Administration, Governor, Lieutenant Governor, and the Attorney General of Virginia.