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UTAH STATE SENATE

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Dear Southern Utah,

I appreciate your willingness to be a part of the political process in our county and taking the time out of your busy schedule to attend tonight's meeting to deal with some very important issues.

I have watched with interest as the "Count My Vote" initiative has begun to take shape and move forward. I am very concerned that they have now decided to push towards a straight primary election system and do away with our caucus system. I have concerns about some aspects of the caucus system but I still think that it is far superior to a direct primary in electing candidates from our party. I have spoken at length with many on both sides about this issue and I agree completely that we should do everything we can to preserve the caucus system in Utah, while at the same time remaining open to improvements such as fixing long lines and helping increase participation. I think that it preserves a tradition of committed delegates electing who they feel is the best candidate after thoroughly vetting each candidate on the issues. There is a system in place with the caucus system that will allow for primaries when needed. Our caucus system has directly lead to electing state officials who have guided our state well and helped the state receive the best managed state award every year for the past number of years.

Finally, I want you to know that I am committed to doing everything that I can to help make the political process as strong as it can possibly be in Southern Utah. I look forward to working with the leadership of both political parties as well as all of you in pushing toward this worthy goal, a goal to unite our state and county and to keep the caucus system not only viable but performing in the best manor possible.

Sincerely,