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Kobach Responds to U.S. House Democrats' Allegations

TOPEKA (November 8, 2011) – Today Kansas Secretary of State Kris Kobach sent an open letter to Congressional Democratic Whip Steny Hoyer (D-MD) concerning state laws recently enacted to prevent voter fraud.

On November 3, 2011, Congressman Hoyer sent an open letter to the nation's Secretaries of State urging them to oppose such measures. Hoyer's message criticized voter election reforms, such as photo identification on election day and proof of citizenship when registering to vote, as being "the product of partisan plays." Secretary Kobach noted inaccuracies and misrepresentations in Hoyer's letter.

"You fail to mention that the Democrat-controlled legislature of Rhode Island also enacted a photo-ID law," wrote Kobach. And "two-thirds of the Democrats in the Kansas House of Representatives and three-quarters of the Democrats in the Kansas Senate voted in favor of the S.A.F.E. Act," which put new safeguards in place to protect the franchise of Kansas citizens.

Kobach further observed that "these Democrats recognize that stopping voter fraud is not just a Republican concern. It is an American concern. Secure election procedures protect Democrats, Republicans, and independents alike."