



*Department of the Secretary of State*

*Bureau of Corporations, Elections and Commissions*

Shenna Bellows  
*Secretary of State*

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Nicholas Connors  
Director of Ballot Access for No Labels  
ballotaccess@nolabels.org

Dear Nick,

I am writing because this office has serious concerns about the conduct of your campaign during the last several months to enroll Maine voters in the No Labels Party for purposes of qualifying that party for the 2024 election.

Over the past few months, municipal clerks have received reports from numerous Maine voters who did not realize they had been enrolled in the No Labels Party. These voters have provided similar accounts of how they came to be enrolled in the party: that they were approached by No Labels Party organizers in public places and asked to sign a “petition” to support the new party. These voters have further stated that No Labels organizers did not disclose—and the voters did not understand—that No Labels was asking them to change their party enrollment. To date we have received such reports from clerks throughout Maine, involving dozens of Maine voters. We infer from these widespread reports that there are many more voters who are similarly unaware that they are now enrolled in the No Labels party.

To the extent representatives of No Labels are telling Maine voters that, by filling out voter registration cards, they are signing or supporting a “petition,” No Labels should instruct them to immediately cease and desist from doing so. A voter registration card is not a petition and the activity of enrolling voters in a party is not petitioning activity. The use of such terms is highly misleading, particularly since Maine law does provide for the use of petitions for other many other types of political activity, such as the direct initiation of legislation and the nomination of candidates. Many Maine voters know what a petition is and understand that signing one does not change one’s party enrollment.

In addition, when No Labels representatives are asking Maine voters to sign voter registration cards, they should be affirmatively disclosing to those voters that they are asking them to enroll in the No Labels party.

Finally, due to the large number of reports we have received of voters being unaware that they have enrolled in the No Labels party, we are very concerned that some voters, unaware that they have been disenrolled from their prior party, will be prevented from voting in the primary election of their choice. This office is therefore sending a mailing to No Labels enrollees to ensure that they are aware that they are currently enrolled in the party.

Thank you for your immediate attention to the matters described above.

Sincerely,



Shenna Bellows  
Secretary of State