



JOHN THURSTON
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ARKANSAS SECRETARY OF STATE

August 8, 2024

Steve Lancaster
200 W. Capitol Ave., Suite 2300
Little Rock, AR 72201

Sent via email & regular mail

RE: July 31, 2024 Letter Sent to Arkansans for Patient Access

Dear Mr. Lancaster:

Upon review of your submitted petitions and accompanying documents, our office discovered that you failed to comply with Ark. Code Ann. § 7-9-601(b)(3), which states, “[u]pon submission of the sponsor’s list of paid canvassers to the Secretary of State, the **sponsor shall certify** to the Secretary of State that each paid canvasser in the sponsor’s employ has no disqualifying offenses in accordance with this section.” (Emphasis added.)

The sponsor did not make the certification required in Ark. Code Ann. § 7-9-601(b)(3). Instead, the manager of a canvassing company attempted to make the certification. Due to this error, Ark. Code Ann. § 7-9-601(f) forbids the counting of signatures collected by paid canvassers for any purpose.

Upon advice of legal counsel, my office will apply this standard to any additional signatures submitted during the cure period.

Respectfully,

Hon. John Thurston
Arkansas Secretary of State