

JOHN R. ASHCROFT SECRETARY OF STATE

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JAMES C. KIRKPATRICK STATE INFORMATION CENTER (573) 751-4936

March 06, 2023

Shane Hamlin Executive Director of ERIC 1201 Connecticut Ave NW Ste 600 Washington, DC 20036

Dear Director Hamlin,

As the chief election authority in the state of Missouri, it is my duty to oversee the running of our elections. I take this responsibility very seriously and Missouri's elections lead the country in accessibility, security, and creditability. Five years ago, Missouri joined ERIC to make elections better, voter rolls more accurate, and bring greater trust to the election process. During my time with ERIC I came to the realization that several changes needed to be made in ERIC's governing documents. Over the last year I led several states, working to bring about necessary changes, but ERIC refused. Therefore, I hereby notify you that Missouri is terminating its membership with ERIC. Below are some of the reasons that led to this decision.

- ERIC refuses to require member states to participate in addressing multi-state voter fraud.
- ERIC focuses on adding names to voter rolls by requiring a solicitation to individuals who already had an opportunity to register to vote and made the conscious decision to not be registered.
- ERIC allows for a hyper-partisan individual to be an ex-officio non-voting member on its governance board.
- ERIC unnecessarily restricts how Missouri utilizes data reports.
- ERIC's benefits to Missouri are limited as only three of the eight states that boarder Missouri are members.

I had hoped that at the February board meeting that ERIC would make necessary changes. The failure of ERIC to do so was disappointing but made this decision easy.

Sincerely,

John R. Ashcroft