

universal mail-in scheme that threaten the integrity of American elections.

As ranking member of the Oversight and Reform Committee, I recently published a report, alongside Congressman JIM JORDAN, that laid out these threats to our elections. Simply put, Democrat States are changing the rules in the middle of the game.

There is nothing wrong with absentee voting. Absentee voting is a time-honored tradition where voters request a ballot if they are unable to vote in person. Expanded absentee voting is appropriate for those who don't feel safe because of the COVID-19 pandemic. I support absentee voting.

However, blue State Governors have taken mail-in voting to a whole new level. Their brilliant idea is to mail out ballots to everyone on the voter rolls, which are notoriously inaccurate.

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They include people who have moved and even died, creating a situation ripe for fraud as millions of unrequested ballots go out to households. Who lives in those households? We don't know.

Look no further than my home State of Kentucky, where former Secretary of State Alison Lundergan Grimes was sued for the State's failure to maintain accurate voter registration lists.

And just yesterday, New York City announced that they would be re-sending nearly 100,000 absentee ballots out due to a printing error just a month before the election.

This raises numerous questions: How many of these ballots were already cast? Will votes in New York count twice? Do these ballots even have to be postmarked?

The fact that we are even asking these questions raises fundamental concerns with the integrity of the upcoming election.

Another concern is the flurry of late ballots we will see after election day. It is a disgrace to our electoral system that we are allowing ballots to be counted for days after the November 3 election. Shame on the States that are allowing this to happen, including Kentucky.

Ballots received after election day is a disaster waiting to happen. If you vote by mail, then do it now, or at least by October 15 or October 20 to ensure that it has time to arrive by election day.

We know what the consequences of ballots accumulating in the days and weeks after election day will be. Look no further than a recent New York primary, where Governor Cuomo's shift to mail-in voting led to absolute chaos. Election officials disqualified thousands of ballots for not having timely postmarks, and the election wasn't certified for 6 weeks.

The surest guarantee of election integrity is for Americans to vote in person where safe and possible. Even Dr. Fauci has declared in-person voting to be safe. This method comes with knowledgeable workers, identity verifi-

cation, and secure ballot submission practices. These safeguards will minimize any delay in election results and ensure the integrity of the outcome.

I wish Congress could come together to have universal voting standards for what will be a Presidential race that, by all accounts, will come down to the wire.

Ballots should be received by election day, and if we can't agree on that, then surely we can agree that ballots that are received after election day have to be postmarked.

There are States that are coming out with new guidance that say ballots received after election day don't even have to be postmarked. Are you kidding me?

We have to come together on this before we leave. We have to come together to ensure the integrity of our elections.

Madam Speaker, that concludes my remarks, and I yield back the balance of my time.

ADDRESSING THE THREAT TO THE DOMESTIC SUPPLY CHAIN FROM RELIANCE ON CRITICAL MINERALS FROM FOREIGN ADVERSARIES AND SUPPORTING THE DOMESTIC MINING AND PROCESSING INDUSTRIES—MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES (H. DOC. NO. 116-155)

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following message from the President of the United States; which was read and, together with the accompanying papers, referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs and ordered to be printed:

*To the Congress of the United States:*

Pursuant to the International Emergency Economic Powers Act (50 U.S.C. 1701 *et seq.*) (IEEPA), the National Emergencies Act (50 U.S.C. 1601 *et seq.*), and section 301 of title 3, United States Code, I hereby report that I have issued an Executive Order declaring a national emergency to deal with the threat posed by our Nation's undue reliance on critical minerals, in processed or unprocessed form, from foreign adversaries.

A strong America cannot be dependent on imports from foreign adversaries for the critical minerals that are increasingly necessary to maintain our economic and military strength in the 21st century. Because of the national importance of reliable access to critical minerals, I signed Executive Order 13817 of December 20, 2017 (A Federal Strategy To Ensure Secure and Reliable Supplies of Critical Minerals), which required the Secretary of the Interior to identify critical minerals and made it the policy of the Federal Government "to reduce the Nation's vulnerability to disruptions in the supply of critical minerals." The critical minerals identified by the Secretary of the Interior are necessary inputs for the

products our military, national infrastructure, and economy depend on the most. Our country needs critical minerals to make airplanes, computers, cell phones, electricity generation and transmission systems, and advanced electronics.

Though these minerals are indispensable to our country, we presently lack the capacity to produce them in processed form in the quantities we need. American producers depend on foreign countries to supply and process them. Whereas the United States recognizes the continued importance of cooperation on supply chain issues with international partners and allies, in many cases, the aggressive economic practices of certain non-market foreign producers of critical minerals have destroyed vital mining and manufacturing jobs in the United States. We must reduce our vulnerability to adverse foreign government action, natural disaster, or other supply disruptions. Our national security, foreign policy, and economy require a consistent supply of each of these minerals.

Using the authority vested in me by IEEPA, the Executive Order requires the Secretary of the Interior, in consultation with the Secretary of the Treasury, the Secretary of Defense, the Secretary of Commerce, and the heads of other executive departments and agencies, as appropriate, to investigate our Nation's undue reliance on critical minerals, in processed or unprocessed form, from foreign adversaries. Following this investigation, the Executive Order requires the Secretary of the Interior to submit a report to the President recommending additional executive action.

The Executive Order also declares that it is the policy of the United States to protect and expand the domestic supply chain for minerals. Specific executive department and agency heads, including the Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of Energy, are directed to take various actions to protect and expand the domestic supply chain for minerals, consistent with applicable law, such as the publication of guidance, the revision of regulations, and the acceleration of the issuance of permits.

I am enclosing a copy of the Executive Order I have issued.

DONALD J. TRUMP.

THE WHITE HOUSE, September 30, 2020.

HOUSE BILLS APPROVED BY THE PRESIDENT

The President notified the Clerk of the House that on the following dates he had approved and signed bills of the following titles:

July 14, 2020:

H.R. 7440. An Act to impose sanctions with respect to foreign persons involved in the erosion of certain obligations of China with respect to Hong Kong, and for other purposes.

August 4, 2020:

H.R. 1957. An Act to amend title 54, United States Code, to establish, fund, and provide