

Alcorn, James (SBE)

From: Christopher Cox [ccox1313@vt.edu]
Sent: Tuesday, August 25, 2009 4:58 PM
To: Alcorn, James (SBE)
Cc: ablakemore@apogeeintegration.com; ccox1313@vt.edu
Subject: SBE Guidelines

Dear Mr. James Alcorn,

I wanted to extend my support for the latest draft (August 10, 2008) of the Voter Residency Determination Regulation guidelines from the SBE's Residency Task Force. As Virginia Tech's chapter coordinator for Students for Barack Obama last fall, I faced ridiculous hurdles while registering students to vote, including claims that considering Montgomery County one's domicile could lead to loss of health insurance or financial aide.

The disruptive and distractive attacks last fall caught the attention of news outlets such as the New York Times (<http://www.nytimes.com/2008/09/08/education/08students.html>) and the Rachel Maddow Show (<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aFT5qg-4Eg8>). This was embarrassing for the Commonwealth.

If not for the tremendous grassroots efforts on behalf of student and local Blacksburg volunteers, we would not have been able to register over 6,000 new voters in Montgomery County.

I believe the drafted guidelines are fair, reasonable, and align with SBE current regulations - it is equally important that the results of your panel reach all County Registrars and that they comply.

I want to make myself available for further discussion on the topic if you so choose. I appreciate your hard work and look forward to following the final recommendations.

Sincerely,

Christopher Cox
Chapter Coordinator, Students for Barack Obama ccox1313@vt.edu 703.946.4680