



Dear Chairman Scott Golden and Members of the Tennessee Republican Party State Executive Committee,

We write you as elected Republicans in Anderson County Government and as Republican Primary voters in the August 1, 2024 election – both voters in support of Rick Scarbrough and Representative John Ragan.

We have been informed that Ragan intends to challenge the August 1, 2024, Republican primary election results. As we understand, while the criteria for consideration of such a contest are unclear, the decision rests with Chairman Scott Golden, and then should it proceed, it will be voted on by the members of the Tennessee Republican State Executive Committee (SEC).

The consideration of this contest will cause irreparable harm to our ability to govern, lead, win, and defend the sanctity of our election process.

We thank Rep. John Ragan for his service to Anderson County and House District 33 in the Tennessee General Assembly. We seek to move forward in honoring that time and his lifetime of service to our nation as an Air Force pilot. While Ragan's decision to contest was decided well before the election and is unfortunate, we hope to mitigate any negative impact this may have on his legacy.

During his time as Clinton Chief of Police, and his continued service to our state as Executive Director for the University of Tennessee's Law Enforcement Innovation Center, we have come to know Rick Scarbrough as an honorable, principled, and effective leader. We know he will serve Anderson County, the people of the 33rd District, and the Republican Party well as our new state representative. Scarbrough won this election because of his tireless work and engagement with Republican primary voters.

The Tennessee Republican Party should be in the business of governing and championing conservative values, not overturning election results because of disagreements and throwing out the votes of thousands of Republican voters. As we have seen with the national Democratic Party with President Joe Biden, these decisions have lasting negative impacts.

We do not want that for our Party. We do not want that for our state.

We ask for you to uphold secure elections free from interference. We ask you to stand for Republican values and the rule of law. We request you to reject any consideration of this contest, and if it is unfortunately considered, we ask you not to invalidate the votes of thousands of our Republican constituents by affirming the contest.



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We ask you to support the will of the Republican voters in Anderson County and the Tennessee House of Representatives District 33.

Sincerely,

**Elected Republicans of Anderson County Government**

Russell Barker  
Sheriff

Gary Long  
Road Superintendent

Regina Copeland  
Trustee

Jeff Cole  
County Clerk

Rex Lynch  
Circuit Court Clerk

Tim Shelton  
Register of Deeds

H. Tyler Mayes  
Chairman, County Commission

Michael Foster  
County Commission

Jerry White  
County Commission

Shelly Vandagriff  
County Commission

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