

# Former Governors of Virginia

February 23, 2021

Chairman Rich Anderson  
Members, Republican State Central Committee  
115 E. Grace Street  
Richmond, VA 23219

Dear Chairman Anderson,

Thanks to you and the leaders of the Republican State Central Committee for your voluntary service to the Republican Party of Virginia. It takes tremendous time and effort in this polarized and combative environment to lead well.

As ex officio SCC members, it has been disheartening for us to watch from a distance as the Committee over these last several months has been incapable of making a complete decision on the method of nomination for statewide races in November 2021. In addition to the unwanted public attention on this issue, it has handicapped our talented pool of statewide candidates from effectively implementing their campaign strategies. We need to nominate our very best candidates to fight for our principles in what will be a tough fall election cycle for our team.

We are happy to know you are meeting again tonight to finally resolve this important issue. It is absolutely imperative that you come out of this meeting tonight with a definitive plan for nomination, to bring unity among all those on State Central. While it is a source of strength that our leadership team is composed of free and independent thinkers who do what they think is best, the time has come for servant leadership, prompt action, and compromise to get this done once and for all. This will not be a capitulation of principles; this will be a resolution of a procedural issue to allow us to win this fall.

It appears the only viable remaining options are for a statewide convention or a canvass. Given the current gubernatorial executive order in place, which could be further extended by this Governor, a large statewide convention will likely not be permissible in June in government-restricted Virginia. We strongly urge you to put aside differences tonight and select a canvass, which has been successfully used many times previously by our party. It would not require an amendment to the party plan, pre-registration or mass meetings, nor does it limit the number of Republicans who can participate in the nominating process. It also screens out Democrat participation through signing a pledge, and very importantly, allows for ranked choice voting that is permitted by the party plan.

There must come a day shortly after the 2021 elections where we decide to select our nominating process well in advance of the election, independently of any specific candidate or faction. Long-term, we must select a nomination method that produces the most organized, electable, competent candidate who can raise money and appeal to a broad, larger number of voters, including those serving in our Armed Services and small business owners and workers. For today, we respectfully implore you, for those candidates who might wish to follow in our

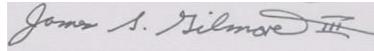
footsteps as statewide elected officials, to end the stalemate, select a canvass, and unite to win in November.

Thank you for considering this message, and thank you again for your energetic public service for the conservative cause and our shared foundational principles.

Sincerely,



George F. Allen  
Former Governor of Virginia



James S. Gilmore III  
Former Governor of Virginia



Robert F. McDonnell  
Former Governor of Virginia