

CPR Questionnaire — Jena Griswold, Democrat

Should the Colorado Secretary of State's office have shared publicly available voter information with the Trump administration's voter fraud commission?

No

I believe that Mr. Williams made the wrong decision when he sent our personal voter information to Donald Trump's Voter Commission. This Commission was concerning right from the start. It was lead by someone with a long, ugly history of disenfranchising hundreds of thousands of eligible citizens, and lawsuits were filed against the Commission for federal overreach. Many Secretaries of State, including many Republicans, stood their ground and stood up for their voters. But Mr. Williams sent our personal voter information to this federal commission, which directly led to thousands of Coloradans cancelling their voter registration. The Trump Commission ended up disbanding because of the legal challenges. If Mr. Williams would have waited, thousands of Coloradans would not have cancelled their registration.

I will follow all laws when considering inquiries from the federal government—Colorado law, federal law, and the 10th Amendment to the US Constitution. This Commission was sued because it was arguably breaking federal law and the 10th Amendment. I would have waited for the judiciary's decision on the lawsuits before sending our voter data. I will not willingly cooperate with a federal inquiry that is simply a guise to chill voter participation, disenfranchise voters, and limit our constitutional rights. I will stand up for the people of Colorado and our rights.

Is automatic voter registration a good idea for Colorado?

Yes.

I fundamentally believe that the Secretary of State should make it easier and more accessible for eligible Coloradans to vote. I will work to increase voter participation and to make elections more accessible and secure. That's why I plan to expand automatic voter registration—to increase voter registration and participation in our democratic process.

Should Colorado require more disclosure of campaign finances?

Yes.

Billionaires, special interest groups, and big corporations are spending millions to influence the outcome of our elections. And their spending is often unreported and secret. As Secretary of State, I will fight for real campaign finance reform that increases transparency of these hidden campaign donors and gets secret money out of Colorado state campaigns. I plan to work with the legislature to ensure that political spending is transparent and human donors are disclosed. In contrast, Mr. Williams has fought against campaign finance reforms that would increase transparency. I also plan to audit campaign finance filings and enforce the law to make sure special interest and politicians play by the rules.

Should Colorado Candidates be able to accept larger contributions?

Yes.

In some cases, I support Colorado candidates accepting larger contributions. The Supreme Court has decided that those who can afford it can put an unlimited amount of money into their personal campaigns. I believe it's appropriate to increase the contribution limit for candidates up against self-funded candidates who put a substantial amount of their own money into their campaigns.

Do you believe Colorado's voter registration system is secure from hackers?

No.

Colorado was one of 21 states targeted by Russian cyberattack in the 2016 election. We have taken positive steps. However, Colorado recently received a B-ranking in election cyber-security. Further, 24 county clerk offices participated in an exercise where they were sent phishing emails with links they could click. If this were real, clicking the links could allow hackers a door into systems. The links were clicked 757 times.

Cyber attacks on our voter registration system will always transform and innovate, and so our protections must, too. I believe we need to double-down on cybersecurity and that's what I plan to do as Secretary of State. I will fight for more cyber resources from the federal government. I also plan to fix our statewide voter registration system, which went down under my opponent's watch on Election Day in 2016, causing 2-3 hour lines in some locations. We have great information technology resources in Colorado. I plan to work with the top minds in government and private sector cyber-security experts to ensure that we are ready for 21st century challenges.

Is it a good thing that Colorado allows people to register to vote on Election Day?

Yes.

I fundamentally believe that the Secretary of State should make it easier and more accessible for eligible Coloradans to vote. I've supported a 2013 law that passed the use of universal mail ballots and allowed people to register to vote on Election Day. On the other hand, Mr. Williams has fought against these very measures, even though they have made voting more convenient and increased participation in Colorado's elections.

Should Colorado require photo ID for in-person voting?'

No.

Most Coloradans vote by mail, and so this question only applies to a small percentage of people. For those who vote in-person, we have robust ID law on the books and all new voters present an approved ID. There are some populations of people who are more unlikely to have photo ID, and we still want them to vote. Whether you are older or younger, disabled or non-disabled, a person of color or Caucasian, you should be able to vote in Colorado if you are a US citizen and meet other eligibility criteria. I want every eligible Coloradan to be able to vote.

Is it fair that business filing fees help cover the cost of the elections division?

Yes.

Business fees currently help fund the elections division in the Colorado Secretary of State's office. We have some of the lowest business fees in the nation. It's critical that our elections run effectively.