PRESS RELEASE For Immediate Release



South Dakota Canvassing Group

Media Contact: SDcanvassing.com / <u>sdcanvass@protonmail.com</u> February 8, 2023

It has come to our attention that rumors are spreading that South Dakota Canvassing Group is trying to impeach the duly elected Secretary of State, Monae Johnson.

It's no secret that individual members and volunteers of our group supported and campaigned for Monae Johnson during the 2022 election cycle. She, as a candidate, ran on election integrity, which our group promotes, and individual members and volunteers believe in.

South Dakota Canvassing Group, and our individual members, are currently working on election reform bills, public awareness, and action at the local level. Our goals are narrowly focused on effecting change for more security, transparency, and local control and oversight in our elections. We are not working to impeach the sitting Secretary of State. This is a disinformation campaign to discount or detract from the influence and success of our group. We will, however, continue to lead and organize statewide efforts to hold our elected officials accountable, and will advocate for more secure election laws that are needed to correct the glaring problems we have uncovered.

During the 2022 legislative session there were a handful of election bills. This year, during the 2023 legislative session, there are over thirty election reform bills. The citizens have spoken; the time for election reform is now. We have machines counting our votes, with absolutely no review of the election night paper ballots by hand count verification, and officials who have no idea what records are on their machines and flash drives or how to read them. Our state can do better and must expect better than what we have been allowing to happen at our expense. If you missed the Freedom Caucus led hearing in Pierre this summer, watch here https://rumble.com/v1it4xz-full-vid-2022-09-02-south-dakota-election-castvoterecords-meetinghearing-st.html. We look forward to Secretary of State Johnson upholding her campaign promises by instituting post-election audits and increasing transparency to restore faith in our election system.

This is a citizen led movement in all counties of the state, not limited to a few people or the public faces of our group, but rather thousands of people who are now willing to speak up and demand transparency and local control of our elections.

"It does not require a majority to prevail, but rather an irate, tireless minority keen on setting the brushfires of freedom in the minds of men." Samuel Adams