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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: Ryan Peterman Responds to Secretary of State Paul Pate Agreeing to Send Unredacted Voter Data to Federal Government

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Contact: sam@petermanforiowa.com**Ryan Peterman Responds to Secretary of State Paul Pate Agreeing to Send Unredacted Voter Data to Federal Government**

DAVENPORT, IA – On Tuesday, the [Cedar Rapids Gazette](#) reported that Iowa Secretary of State Paul Pate agreed to send sensitive Iowa voter data to the U.S. Department of Justice. In his letter to the DOJ, Pate agreed to hand over “unredacted voter registration data.” Democratic candidate for Secretary of State Ryan Peterman issued the following statement:

“This decision by Secretary of State Paul Pate is indefensible and should worry every Iowan,” Peterman said. “Iowa voters have a right to know that their sensitive personal data, including driver’s license numbers and Social Security Numbers, will be handled with care and kept confidential. Unfortunately, Secretary Pate has willingly handed that information to the federal government, and we have no idea how it will be used or kept safe. It is a complete dereliction of duty from our chief election official in Iowa, who is tasked with protecting our most sensitive information.

Secretary Pate could have fought back against this demand, as 30 other states – both Democratic and Republican – have done so far. The idea that Iowa was required to hand over your data is clearly contradicted by the fact that the DOJ has had every single lawsuit seeking this very data dismissed in court so far, [most recently in Arizona](#).

Iowans deserve a Secretary of State who will fight for all Iowans, not one who gives into the demands of his party leaders. As Secretary of State, I will always protect Iowa voters’ private data, because when Iowans register to vote, they deserve to know their information will be handled safely and securely.”

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