



March 25, 2020

Honorable Laurel M. Lee
Florida Secretary of State
R.A. Gray Building
500 South Bronough Street
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0250

Because of the public safety hazard presented by the COVID-19 pandemic, many candidates for public office are unable to campaign in ways contemplated by the Florida Elections Code. One such example involves the gathering of ballot qualifying petitions under Section 99.095, *Florida Statutes* and Rule 1S-2.045, F.A.C.

The amount of social interaction required for petition gathering to be successful now creates a danger to the health of Florida's citizens and risks further spread of the deadly coronavirus. Therefore, out of regard for the health of our fellow citizens and basic fairness to all candidates, I hereby request the following relief from the normal requirements of petition gathering:

1. Each completed petition form may be submitted digitally, and in bulk, to election officials for verification; and
2. The deadline to submit petitions for consideration is extended until noon of the 7th day preceding the first day of the qualifying period for the office sought to the supervisor of elections of the county in which the signee is registered to vote.

Thank you in advance for your consideration of these requests.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Terrie L. Rizzo". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the last name "Rizzo" being particularly prominent.

Terrie Rizzo
Chair, Florida Democratic Party