**Assessment - Written Communication**

**Write a letter to a real or fictional person of your choice.  The letter should be persuasive in nature. Ensure that you have a scenario in mind that provides a reason for sending this letter to them.  Explain in the opening of your letter the context and reason that is prompting the letter. Address all of the following points:**

* Why should voting matter in American democracy?
* Why might some say that it doesn't matter?
* Why should every citizen have the opportunity to vote?
* How have some citizens been kept away from the polls in the past?
* What are potential barriers to people who want to vote today?
* Does it matter that voter fraud is actually very rare, especially since fraud always could potentially happen in the future?
* Why can it be hard to BOTH strongly secure elections against potential fraud AND provide assured access to every eligible voter who wants to vote during elections?

**Conclude your letter by recapping your reason for writing.**

Dear Voter,

I wanted to take a moment of your time to see if I could get you to see eye to eye with me on some political opinions that I have. As a political leader myself, I want to inform and engage our voters of the importance of political participation and would love to get your vote as well. You may ask why voting matters at all in our democracy. After all, one vote means nothing right? I would argue the exact opposite and compare it to a tumbling snowball. Each vote adds to the snowball, increasing its speed and size as it rolls down the cliffside. Now, each small bit may not seem a lit, but many of those small bits make a huge difference. So, if every person that thought voting didn’t matter voted, we could potentially see a huge difference. Now, as a citizen, your right to vote is guaranteed. You are the reason why as a government we exist and seeing how we work to create policy that affects you directly, you deserve the ability to have a voice and to contribute to this. Now I know in the past some citizens have been barred from voting either due to biases or segregation in the past, but I do not want that to be the case nowadays. The complicated nature of voting may sometimes keep people away, but I can assure you that you could change this as a voter, and to help improve political citizen representation in our country. Now, something that you may see on the news is voter fraud, and you may ask if it even matters. I want to assure you that since every person’s vote is a right and important, voter fraud is theft, and a loss of an inalienable right that we cannot let happen. So that is why sometimes voting is a little complicated, because we need to make sure that our voting system is secure, but also simply enough to allow everyone to vote. I would love tog et your opinion on this, and how you think we could develop a system in which it is easier for everyone to vote safely and securely. Again, I hope that this letter reaches you and opens your mind a little more to voting and political participation in our nation. Now, I do not intend to take up much more if your time, and hope that I can count on your vote in our upcoming elections.

Regards,

Your State’s Senator