ALEX PADILLA
CALIFORNIA SECRETARY OF STATE

January 17, 2021

Governor Gavin Newsom
1303 10th Street, Suite 1173
Sacramento, CA 95814
Attn: Legal Affairs

Honorable Governor Gavin Newsom:

It has been my privilege and honor to serve the people of California as Secretary of State for the past six years.

I am proud of the transformative work we have accomplished in partnership with you, the Legislature, county election officials, voting rights advocates, and community leaders throughout the state to reduce barriers to participation in the electoral process, increase voter registration and participation, and administer safe and secure elections — even during the COVID-19 pandemic. More than 22 million registered voters were able to vote in the 2020 Presidential General Election and a record 17.8 million Californians cast their ballot — demonstrating to the nation a proven model of electoral reform and innovation.

I am humbled and honored by your trust in me to represent California in the United States Senate. I look forward to continuing to serve the great State of California as a United States Senator and to ensuring that the rights and democratic principles we cherish are protected and preserved for all people.

I hereby resign from my position as California Secretary of State, effective Monday, January 18, 2021 at 9:00 a.m. Pacific Standard Time.

In accordance with California Government Code section 1775, my Chief Deputy, James Schwab, shall discharge the duties of the office of Secretary of State until the vacancy is filled, as required by law.

Sincerely,

Alex Padilla
Secretary of State and Senator Designate

cc: Office of the Secretary of State

1500 11TH STREET, SACRAMENTO, CA 95814 • (916) 653-7244
300 SOUTH SPRING STREET, ROOM 16507, LOS ANGELES, CA 90013 • (213) 897-6225
WWW.SOS.CA.GOV