



Dear Members of the Commission,

In order to continue preserving fairness and transparency in this year's presidential election, we are writing today to request that an additional, earlier debate be held in our home state of Alabama, this September. Alabamans will be some of the first voters to cast a ballot in the presidential election, and it is imperative that we hear from both candidates.

As you are aware, presidential debates are a critical part of the electoral process. Unlike television ads or pre-written speeches, debates give Americans a firsthand look at each candidate's own policies and intellect in an unscripted setting. They allow voters to hear the candidates' platforms firsthand and give candidates the opportunity to respond to the tough questions at the forefront of every voter's mind.

Unfortunately, by the time the first presidential debate happens on September 29, 2020, voters in Alabama will have already started voting. Alabamans who vote early deserve the same opportunity afforded to other states to hear the two competing visions for our country and make a well-informed decision when casting their vote at the ballot box – especially when one candidate has spent the duration of the campaign avoiding voters and questions from the press.

We must give voters a fair chance in an already unprecedented election, and we ask that you consider adding an additional, earlier debate in Alabama, this September. This monumental election will determine the very future of our nation. The least we can do is equip voters with the facts necessary to aid them in electing the next President of the United States.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Will Ainsworth".

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Lieutenant Governor Will Ainsworth

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Nathaniel Ledbetter".

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House Majority Leader Nathaniel Ledbetter

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Greg Reed".

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Senate Majority Leader Greg Reed