

From: David Scanlan <david.scanlan@sos.nh.gov>

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Subject: Response to Politico Article

Good afternoon, Legislators,

Over the Labor Day weekend, Politico ran a story about the challenges states face when creating voter registration databases using offshore software developers. In the story, the writer made several false claims about New Hampshire's new Statewide Voter Registration System, which went live in April of this year.

When the new Statewide Voter Registration System was in the development stage, a thorough review of the software found the Ukrainian national anthem in a section of some third-party software used as part of the build. That software code was found to be benign and did not pose a security risk to the system. Nevertheless, it was promptly removed in January of 2023 during development.

The writer's claim that the voter registration software was misconfigured to connect to servers in Russia and overseen by a Russian computer engineer convicted of manslaughter is blatantly false. This information was attributed to an anonymous source in the story. Therefore, Politico's further suggestions that there potentially existed two vulnerabilities, exploitable by hackers, are also false because these vulnerabilities did not exist.

Attached is a Union Leader article, published yesterday, that addresses the false claims made about New Hampshire's Statewide Voter Registration System in more detail.

We are confident that New Hampshire's new voter registration system and database have the best possible security protection.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to reach out to me at [\(603\) 271-3242](tel:6032713242).

Sincerely,

David Scanlan | Secretary of State
New Hampshire Secretary of State
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