

Dear Members of the Commission,

In order to continue preserving fairness and transparency in this year's presidential election, I am writing today to request that an additional, earlier debate be held in my home state of New Jersey this September.

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 New Jersey will have already started voting 10 days prior. New Jerseyans 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 I ask that you consider adding an additional, earlier debate in New Jersey 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,

Robert Singer
Deputy Republican Leader
New Jersey State Senate

Joseph Pennacchio
Republican Whip
New Jersey State Senate

Steven Oroho
Republican Budget Officer
New Jersey State Senate

Michael Doherty
New Jersey State Senate

Declan O'Scanlon
New Jersey State Senate

Michael Testa Jr.
New Jersey State Senate

John DiMaio
Republican Co-Conference Leader
New Jersey General Assembly

Brian Rumpf
Republican Policy Co-Chair
New Jersey General Assembly

Antwan McClellan
New Jersey General Assembly

Ryan Peters
New Jersey General Assembly

Erik Simonsen
New Jersey General Assembly

Jean Stanfield
New Jersey General Assembly

Hal Wirths
New Jersey General Assembly