

State Sen. Kim Thatcher signs letter calling for election audit in 50 states

By JOEY CAPPELLETTI
For the Keizertimes

Earlier this month, state senator and Keizer-resident Kim Thatcher joined 138 other Republican state legislators from multiple states in signing a letter “to the American people” that called for a 50-state audit of the 2020 election.

“If every fraudulent claim in the 2020 election were allowed evidentiary hearings by the courts or at least had meaningful

media coverage by curious journalists, Americans would not have a reason to doubt who is sitting in the Oval Office,” Thatcher wrote in an email to the *Keizertimes*.

“The doubt is enough of a reason to audit our elections and preserve trust moving forward.”

Thatcher has served since 2014 as the state senator for District 13, which encompasses Keizer, Newberg, St. Paul, Sherwood, Wilsonville, King City and parts of four



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other cities. In 2020, she ran unsuccessfully against Shemia Fagan in the Oregon secretary of state race.

After initially agreeing to do a phone interview with the *Keizertimes* to discuss the letter, Thatcher canceled five minutes before the scheduled call and opted to instead send written answers.

“It is evident that there is a coordinated effort to belittle anyone who has questions about the November 2020 election,” wrote Thatcher. “This story will likely be no different and use typical media convention like ‘false’ and ‘disproven’ and I will be pleasantly surprised if that is not the case.”

When asked if she believed there was fraud in the 2016 election, Thatcher said the claims that Donald Trump conspired with Russia have been “disproven.”

Thatcher was joined by two other Oregon legislators, Sen. Dennis Linthicum (R-Klamath Falls) and state Rep. Lily Morgan (R-Grants Pass), in signing the partisan letter that was posted on social media by Arizona state Sen. Wendy Rogers. The letter claimed that an audit of 2.1 million ballots in Maricopa County earlier this year proved there was “a corrupted election” and that all 50 states needed to be “forensically audited.” The letter also called for voter rolls to be scrubbed in every state.

In response to the letter's requests, Fagan tweeted, “Not happening. Can confirm.”

The Maricopa County audit was

conducted by Cyber Ninjas, a firm that has never conducted an election audit, after it was ordered by the Republican majority in the Arizona Senate.

The audit's findings were presented to the Arizona Senate on Sept. 24 and found only small variations. Their findings showed that Biden received an additional 99 votes and Trump received 261 fewer votes than the official election results reported.

“The auditor's final hand count - which quadruple-checked every single one of the 2.1 million ballots - matches Maricopa County's official machine count. This is the most important and encouraging finding of the audit,” said Arizona Senate President Karen Fann, who is a Republican.

Thatcher, however, said that the Cyber

brainfood

Lazy Bones

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By Charles Preston

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ACROSS

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The doubt is enough of a reason to audit our elections and preserve trust moving forward.

— KIM THATCHER, State Senator

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