



Philad.<sup>a</sup> 23.<sup>d</sup> July 1776

Sire,

I beg leave to submit to the Consideration of your Honble. House the Propriety of passing an Ordinance for the Regulation of Elections in our Province. What I have principally in View is the collecting of Votes by Ballot only, and providing effectual Means for the Prevention of Fraud in Elections. This is undoubtedly the most equitable way of ascertaining the Choice of the People, and I am confident would be very acceptable to our Constituents. Elections are now of greater Importance, if possible, than heretofore; because by your late excellent Constitution the Source of all Government originates with the People at large. I thought it my Duty to suggest this Hint. I hope it will be deemed worthy the attention of the House.

I have, further, to request the House would be so good as to furnish your<sup>their</sup> Delegates with printed Copies of your new Constitution, & with such other Ordinances & Regulations as you may Pass from Time to Time. We should likewise be glad of a Copy of that part of your Minutes which ascertains what Number of Delegates shall represent the Province in Congress. I am told you have made one Delegate sufficient for this Purpose; but as I have no good Authority for this opinion & was the other Day the only Member from Jersey attending in Congress, I was in great Doubt as to the Propriety of giving my Vote.

With great Respect to the Honrble Convention

I am Sir,

Your very humble Servant  
Fra.<sup>s</sup> Hopkinson