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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Mickey Amery, MLA for Calgary-Cross, issued the following statement on the Alberta NDP's court challenge on the new voter list rules being thrown out:

"The NDP claims to care about protecting Albertans' privacy, yet last week it went to court to challenge measures designed to protect their personal voter information. Yesterday, the court rejected the NDP's arguments and confirmed our authority to act.

"The NDP's court application has been exposed for what it always was: a partisan attempt to score political points at the expense of protecting Albertans' personal information. Their position was hypocritical from the start. They cannot claim to stand for privacy one day and then fight voter privacy protections in court the next.

"Following the alleged unauthorized disclosure of the list of electors, Alberta's Chief Electoral Officer publicly called for stronger safeguards. Our government responded with temporary protections to suspend distribution of the voters list while investigations continued and legislative changes were made. Instead of supporting these protections, the NDP challenged them in court, opposing measures designed to protect Albertans' personal information and preserve confidence in our democratic processes. As the Chief Electoral Officer warned the court, the NDP's demands would have opened the door to releasing detailed voter information to other registered political parties, even those under investigation.

"Alberta's government acted to protect Albertans and the NDP acted for themselves. The NDP owes Albertans an explanation: why did it fight these privacy protections, and why did it believe broader access to sensitive voter information was justified while investigations were ongoing?

"Our government will continue strengthening protections for Albertans' personal information. Legislative changes are coming to strengthen safeguards around voter information, and we hope the NDP will finally put the interests of Albertans ahead of their political interests and support those reforms."