

PUBLIC COMMENTS

HB 661

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON ELECTIONS

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Hearing Date: May 4, 2021 8:00 AM

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Lisa Nilsson

Self, Joshua Committee

Boerne, TX

I am in favor of section 1.C of this bill, which calls for audits of voting system equipment. My understanding is that currently the Secretary of State's office does not employ any software engineers and they do not audit any of the electronic voting equipment including the vote tabulation machines in the precincts or the central accumulator in the central counting area of the county elections office. I'm told the machines come from their manufacturers with software that has been certified to meet a national standard. But it is never audited in Texas to assure that the system's programming has not been changed and in fact, is programmed to count each vote at 100% of its intended value. In most elections, over 80% of the votes are cast on location during Early Voting or on Election Day. While the heart of this bill is attempting to make it more convenient for voters on election day to vote at any of the polling sights in their county rather than just in their precinct. But I believe the most important part of this bill is the fact that it is calling for much-needed software audits of the electronic counting equipment before, during and after the election to the extent such an audit is practicable. I would urge that such audits are necessary to assuring the security of our counting equipment and the confidence of Texas voters in the integrity of our election system.

glenda smith

self

east tawakoni, TX

They should NOT be connected to the internet even the main system should not be connected to the internet.

Tom Thomas

self

Corpus Christi, TX

REPUBLICANS, PLEASE STOP YOUR WAR ON DEMOCRACY!!!!!! By making it even more difficult for people to vote, you are destroying the foundation of our country! If you really loved Texas (and America), you'd make it easier for people to vote.

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