

PUBLIC COMMENTS

HB 2092

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON ELECTIONS

Hearing Date: April 1, 2021 8:00 AM

Doyle Light

Self - Retired

Mineral Wells, TX

I am adamantly opposed to this bill! Municipal elections are local elections & have been kept separate purposely. Election cycles and non-partisan declarations for these elections, which by-the-way REALLY are the ones "closest to the people" (of anyone who lives in an incorporated city in this State), must be kept in place. I urge you to NOT ADVANCE this bill from committee!

Martina Sutton

Self

Cedar Park, TX

I do not support HB2092.

I do not see the need to add this proposed change to the election code. Plenty of information about candidates for city office is readily available and requirement for declaration of party affiliation is not necessary and really should not be a deciding factor when it comes down to voters making a choice. Voters should be focusing on a candidate's qualifications and competency for office. Not specifying a party affiliation actually encourages voters to do independent research to find out more about all of the candidates and that is a very good thing for voters. Party affiliation is already so polarizing in our government on all levels. We do not need to exacerbate this issue.

Rebecca Vice

City of Allen City Council

Allen, TX

The Allen City Council is opposed to any legislation that requires candidates for a City office to declare party affiliation in order to run for office, including and especially HB 2092. <https://www.cityofallen.org/2228/2021-Legislative-Program>

RHONDA STELL, MAYOR

MYSELF

JOHNSON CITY, TX

As Mayor, I serve the WHOLE community. I feel that one should vote for a candidate on leadership abilities, positions they take on issues, openness with the public and integrity. In these times, unfortunately, some voters only vote by party lines which not always elect the best candidate to serve a small community.

Marsha Bujnoch

Self. Nurse anesthetist

Houston, TX

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This is absolutely necessary.

Ben Brown

Republican Club at Heritage Ranch

Fairview, TX

House Elections Committee

Re: SB 2092

I support HB2092 which will indicate party affiliation on elections for city office. Including party affiliations on ballots is a help to some voters as they decide their vote.

This should be expanded to include elections for Boards of Trustees for independent school districts, community college districts, and municipal utility districts.

I look forward to your favorable vote in committee for HB2092.

Yours truly,

Ben Brown

Legislative and Campaign Activities Director

Republican Club at Heritage Ranch

Fairview, Collin County TX

972-363-0620 jbenbrownpe@msn.com

Nisha Eckhoff

Nisha Eckhoff

Houston, TX

Absolutely

Walter Bowen

Self - Software Engineer

Carrollton, TX

It is high time that candidates for elected offices closest to our localities be required to at least PROFESS affiliation with a party. We had a candidate for city council who won because he said all of the right things to make people think he was a centrist and financially conservative but when we dug deeper we realized he was in fact one of a handful of candidates being pushed by the state democratic party.

No more stealth candidates! We as citizens deserve to have at least a modicum of publicly available information regarding what positions a candidate holds themselves out as supporting, and the party affiliation will go a long way towards letting people know whether a candidate truly is going to govern or vote along conservative or liberal lines -- which in turn will largely determine whether their beliefs and leanings align with those of the voters.

Our public school systems are being run into the ground by people who want nothing more than power over how our children are being "educated". Local school boards rightfully are given large latitude over determining local educational priorities -- but when those priorities run totally contrary to what most parents would have their children being taught, and nobody has any insight into the liberal or conservative leanings of a candidate because they don't have to declare any affiliation, we end up with ugly surprises like those seen in Loudoun County VA. Our next generation is the future of our country, and if we allow the edudoctrinatoin of them by people whose main objective is to tear down our country, we will be left with nothing.

Why should citizens vote for someone who could effectively vote AGAINST the taxpayer to tax them into oblivion, simply

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because they were allowed to sneak in under cover of having no party affiliation?

Carolyn Watts
Self/anesthetist
Houston, TX

All affiliations should be disclosed.

Patricia Jowell
Self/retired
Orange, TX

I support HB6 2092

Jacqueline Brown
Self
Corpus Christi, TX

Vote Yes! I believe this is extremely important for people to know what party a candidate affiliates with!

David Kuchurivskyy
Self
Burleson, TX

I support this bill because transparency is needed.

Manuel Flores
Self
Boerne, TX

VOTE YES.

Cody Northam
Self
Baytown, TX

Vote yes. While this may be low on my list of issues, I think this will give voters at the very least some sort of information when voting.

Kathy Hudson
SELF
Jonestown, TX

For a mostly "legislatively-uneducated" population, I think this party specification should be required.

Richard Smith

Self

Corpus christi, TX

I vote yes

Andrew Eller

Self - Chemical Engineer, Director of Quality

Temple, TX

For the Bill (HB 2092) - Often voters will vote for candidates because of political party affiliation. However, in municipal elections, without party affiliation being listed, it is difficult to know where candidates may stand on broader issues and what types of issues may be important to them. By affiliating with a political party in these elections it will become easier for voters to know the probable stance of the candidates on these broader issues. I participate and adhere closely to one political party because of their platform and planks and agree with them almost 100%. If I know that a candidate also closely adheres to that same party, I would be likely to vote for them as it gives me a better understanding of their philosophy and direction on government.

I urge the passage of HB 2092.

Catherine Marrs

Self

Dallas, TX

Representative Sanford: Thank you for submitting this bill. Please fight to get this passed. It is imperative that citizens know who they are voting for! Thank you again for fighting for me and what you are doing for Texans. Catherine Marrs, Vice-Chair Precinct 2066 DallasTX

Michelle Hewitt

Self office manager

San Antonio, TX

Vote YES

Shawn Flanagan

self/retired

Corpus Christi, TX

I oppose. We have enough partisanship already. Let city elections at least pretend to be about the candidate and not the party.

Devkirm Khalsa

Myself

Austin, TX

Why...some people are independents

Connie Schroeder, Mayor

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City of Bastrop

Bastrop, TX

Respectfully oppose HB 2092. Local municipal jurisdiction is focused on public safety, infrastructure and quality of life not party affiliation mandating partisan elections undermine the political process for all communities. Thank you for your consideration.

Michael Smith, City Manager

City of Jacksboro

Jacksboro, TX

In a small rural community, there is absolutely no good argument to require candidates for municipal office to declare a party affiliation. It serves no purpose other than to be able to count the number of elected officials in each party and then use that information for state or federal elections.

MARY ANN HAJEK

MARY ANN HAJEK PC

San Antonio, TX

i STRONGLY oppose the requirement that a candidate MUST declare a party affiliation when running for a city office. Most candidates willingly do so to obtain support, but in smaller communities it is the CANDIDATE that the public knows, and votes for on that person's merits, not a party. Too many good officials are voted out when a "party" upsets the public. In a very small town (under 5000 population) the voting should not be dictated by a Party that the candidate may or may not agree with or belong to. City governments do not have a Republican or Democratic Primary for City council elections, so we should not have to declare a party on the ballot. Thank you.

Sherry Gause

Self

Palestine, TX

Please be advised that I agree a person must declare a party affiliation when running for any office. I believe affiliation goes to the character and integrity of a person thus allowing potential voters to make well informed decisions during elections.

Liz Johnson

Myself

Richardson, TX

This is so difficult. We live in Richardson and our 27 year old in the city of dallas. We could not find any information about candidates party affiliations.

Monty Wynn

Texas Municipal League

Austin, TX

Dear Chairman Cain,

I am writing on behalf of the Texas Municipal League to express our opposition to House Bill 2092 by Sanford. The bill would require candidates for city office to declare party affiliation to run for city office and require the candidate's party affiliation to appear on the ballot next to the candidate's name.

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H.B. 2092 is a simple bill that would have a disastrous impact on local communities across the state. One of the primary reasons that city governments are able to efficiently respond to their citizens is because city leaders are able to avoid the partisan gridlock that plagues Washington D.C. and, on occasion, the state legislative process in Austin. Nonpartisan city leaders solve problems at the local level that affect their residents' daily lives. Repairing city streets, providing essential utilities, preserving quality of life in neighborhoods, and guaranteeing exceptional police, fire, and emergency medical services are not Democratic or Republican issues. Our membership feels strongly that introducing partisan politics at the city level will undermine the pragmatic nature of local government that city residents depend upon.

City residents demand results of their local leaders, not ideology. Please oppose H.B. 2092.

Sincerely,

Monty Wynn
Director, Grassroots and Legislative Services
Texas Municipal League

Sylvia Randles
Self
Kendalia, TX

Vote Yes

DONNA EYLES
Self
CORPUS CHRISTI, TX

Vote yes. I am tired of candidates saying what they must to hide their real intentions until they get into office. They should be forced to state, out front, their alliances.

Jessie Carlson
self
Corpus Chrsiti, TX

Vote yes. I'm tired of city leaders hiding their true agendas behind the guise of a non partisan election.

Andre van den Broeck
van den Broeck Enterprises, LLC
Grand Prairie, TX

Pass, please

Rebecca Hamiltin
Self
Smithville, TX

I want to align my party's values with my choice of candidate without having to perform hours of research to see where the candidate's values fall. A very important bill to prevent fraudulent representation of issue support in order to garner votes.

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Jakey Saunders
Self Internet retailer
Arlington, TX

I, as a citizen and voter, want and expect Texas elections to be fair and honest. Because I believe there is an effort by some to win elections through fraud, now more than ever in our nation's history, I support any and all efforts to insure fair and honest elections. Thus I fully support HB 2092.

Stacey Hill
Self, retired
San Antonio, TX

I agree that an applicant should state his or hers political party affiliation, this would help voters to come to proper conclusions whether they would want to vote for them or not and it should not be something that would be hidden especially when serving the public. A persons political affiliation helps sum up the entirety of their beliefs system along with other information that should be provided.

Julie Foster
HERITAGE INTERIORS DESIGNS
Baytown, TX

Yes, we need to know where any person we are voting for stands politically. Otherwise, how would we know what we are voting for?

Jacqueline St. Hilaire
Self - Self Employed
Plano, TX

I really fail to understand the reasoning behind this - why don't we know what their party affiliation is? In order to make more educated decisions regarding our local leaders it is imperative that we have this information. While it doesn't give us a complete picture of the candidate it can certainly help us better understand where each candidate is coming from as well as the direction they are likely to take within our local government. By not sharing their party affiliation with the public it feels like perhaps they are trying to hide something - let's get some transparency please. Thank you.

patrick gerval
individual
Fort Worth, TX

party affiliation should be required, i am not a domrat or republican both parties are failing the people of this once fine country

Karen Cairnie
Self
Montgomery, TX

Please support and vote for this bill.

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Russell Bafford

Self

Rowlett, TX

I support HB 2092 and encourage the committee to unanimously pass this long overdue measure. It is a myth to believe that municipal elections are neutral regarding partisan ideologies. It is deceptive for a candidate in a municipal election to hide their prior party affiliation and primary voting history. The citizens of Texas are entitled to know the political foundation upon which a candidate is likely to build his / her subsequent actions if elected to public office. We have seen too much empty talk about transparency in the political arena. Now you can do something positive to enhance real transparency for all Texas voters by approving HB 2092.

Dennis Farley, Mr.

Self/retired

Temple, TX

We need to know where each candidate stands

Tammy Blackwell

Self/retire, VP for Walker County Republican Women

Huntsville, TX

I vote YES (especially HB 6), but **HERE IS WHAT SHOULD BE ADDED** to ensure we have fair and honest elections in the future:

?No electronic voting machines or computers tabulating results should be connected to the Internet or to any network vulnerable to hackers.

?Paper ballots and voting machines must be audit-able and accessible to the legislature, and to citizens via an FOIA and/or Texas Public Information Act request.

?Require voter identification for mail-in and absentee ballots.

?Routine verification of voter rolls and new registrations. (No deceased or duplicated voters and no non-resident voters)

?Limit absentee voting to active-duty servicemen and those with a medical disability verified by a doctor within 90 days and identify-checked by a notary.

?Limited number of days for early voting.

Darrell Alldredge

Self

Glen Rose, TX

Yes

PAMELA LITTLEPAGE

Self, Manager

SHADY SHORES, TX

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I would like to see party affiliation as a requirement when running for any office from the school board to the city council to municipal elections. It may seem unimportant and trivial to some people but you can know a lot about a person nowadays by whose values they line up with. It tells me things I want to know about the people I am voting for because so little is known about some of these people. Thank you for considering my views on this matter.

Mrs Iona Gorham

self

Dickinson, TX

Why would one not declare their party affiliation?

PATTI Burt

MYSELF, A CITIZEN

Hutchins, TX

THEY SHOULD DECLARE THIER PARTY SO THE PUBLIC WILL BE AWARE OF THEIR IDEOLOGY

DENICE CARNES

SELF

MCALLE, TX

Vote Yes - when running for municipal office must declare party affiliation (it all starts at the local level!)

Victoria Hanson

Self

Corpus Christi, TX

Vote No on HB 2092

No. There are some positions where party affiliation should not affect the candidate's actions. Putting a party affiliation on the ballot makes this position political by default.

Tom Duncan

Self, retired city of Irving employee

Irving, TX

I am in favor of this bill. As a voter nearly denied the ability to vote by a poll worker who tried to make me to leave the polling station for the November 2020 election because I wore a non partisan hat which had the words "American Patriot" printed on it, I believe elections must be fair, honest and verifiable.

RUTH GARD

SELF

FORT WORTH, TX

YES, candidates for municipal elective office MUST be required to declare a party affiliation.

Robert Straiton

Self

Corpus Christi, TX

Vote yes!

Voters have a right to know what their candidates really believe in, and most candidates adopt the beliefs of a party that are their own beliefs. Parties have unique fiscal, religious, and patriotic beliefs that voters relate to. It also helps prevent candidates from masquerading their positions.

Al Barbosa

self

Humble, TX

I believe this bill is vital that it passes as I think voters should know in advance what political party a candidate is affiliated with. A candidate's political affiliation can be a huge factor in my opinion. It is also important that candidates be as transparent as possible.

Walter Parker, Mr.

Self Technician

Anna, TX

I find it misleading that municipal candidates declare no party affiliations. They should be required to gain endorsement and be subject to discipline of party chairs.

Margaret Colia

Myself as a Texan born and raised citizen

Ft. Worth, TX

Without a doubt!!! Important to know the leanings of a candidate, at a glance for those who may be new to a county/ town. More research may be helpful if the candidates, but one shouldn't be ashamed or hide their leanings.

Winter Edwards, Ms.

Self/Realtor

Corpus Christi, TX

Vote YES - Voters have a right to know what party candidates are aligned with, and so many candidates try very hard to muddy that water for the voter. I work hard at figuring that out for policy reasons. I cannot trust a person who is unwilling to stand up for what they stand for, or who would make excuses and lie about such things. Politicians are very good at liars, and WTP of Texas need to make that as hard for them as humanly possible. The entire process of making our voices heard is extremely time consuming anyway, take this as an example.

Tom Haskin

Lange Ranch

Calliham, TX

I agree with stated requirement presented by Mr. Stanford.

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Jeffrey Caudell

Self

Red Oak, TX

I this bill should be passed.

Doris Spraggins

Self

Fredericksburg, TX

I support HB 2092.

Don Spraggins

Self

Fredericksburg, TX

I support HB2092.

Lynda Gail Jones

Self - Retired Mental Health Professional now Caregiver for Mother

Chireno, TX

I believe candidates must align in a way the people who elect them can know they can depend on them to uphold their pledge to the Party's agenda. I believe wolves in sheep's clothing should be banned from the party. I do not understand the dishonesty of voting opposite to the positions stated in the party's platform. We need to be able to trust our politicians, but very few people do anymore with good reason.

Kimberly Young

Self

CORPUS CHRISTI, TX

Vote yes! Voters have a right to know what their candidates really believe in, and most candidates adopt the beliefs of a party that are their own beliefs. Parties have unique fiscal, religious, and patriotic beliefs that voters relate to. Therefore, it will help that candidate get votes from their correct constituents, later identify them and represent them.

Thomas Cramer

Self

Corpus Christi, TX

Vote yes to this bill. Do you know how hard it is to find out a candidate's political party? It's enough to make you not do the research...or just vote based on their name or something else that doesn't give any value to your vote. We voters have a right to know the candidates' beliefs and political party. We had a mayoral candidate that pretended she was a Republican, courted the Republican vote, and was really a Democrat, based on her beliefs, and her voting record. 99% of the time, the party candidates are affiliated with is the one that reflects their beliefs. Why not make local candidates do what the other candidates do, and take a stand politically and publicly?

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Denise Gordon
Self/Clinical Social Worker
Round Rock, TX

Why would you even consider this Bill? Do you believe that more Republicans will be elected if their party is listed? Is this an effort to increase local control by Republicans?

Local Elections are non-partisan. Voters who are interested may quickly learn the party the candidate is affiliated with by reviewing endorsements, literature, and often signs.

This Bill will pave the path for more Democrats to be elected in municipal areas; pass it if you dare!

JANIS REINKEN

Self / Attorney

AUSTIN, TEXAS, TX

04-01-21
Mr. Chairman and Committee Members,
With all due respect to Rep. Sanford, this Bill may be well-intended, yet is unnecessary and would complicate local elections for mayor and city council positions. Municipal elections offer local voters the opportunity to vote for the individual they consider best suited to serve as a municipal official without regard to party affiliation. If municipal officials must declare a party affiliation, then that would potentially impact the primary and general elections and create more runoff elections at greater expense for municipal taxpayers. This Bill has the prospect of creating adverse, unintended consequences.
Sincerely,
Janis Reinken
Austin, Texas (House District 49; Senate District 14)

Arthur Pinto
Self, Mechanical Engineer Retired
Dawson, TX

I think this requirement should become law.

Denise Lockwood, Ms.
Self
Galveston, TX

I want to see all candidates list their party affiliation on the ballot.

James Fields
Self Retiree
Jersey Village, TX

Transparency is necessary for voters to know whom they are voting.

David Rogers, Mr.
Self

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Pflugerville, TX

I oppose this bill.

I am a sitting City Councilman in the City of Pflugerville. Like many Texans, I was a Democrat when I was young, and became a Republican later in life. I was active in both parties, as a volunteer and an elected party delegate.

As a city councilman, I serve with people who vote in both parties, and people who do not participate in party primaries. I have found that partisan affiliations do not map well to positions on municipal issues, and that ad-hoc coalitions vary dramatically and shift frequently from issue to issue. In my experience, partisan alignment simply does not predict how city council members will act, and most significant state and national partisan issues simply do not appear in a city context.

I appreciate that partisan affiliation is a useful tool for voters in judicial races, where it is often the only available indicator of judicial philosophy, and is likewise very useful in a Legislative contest where the candidates represent very large numbers and often great geographic regions, and in the operations of a legislature, where the numbers of candidates and members is very large.

I do not believe that in the very small numbers of city council, where the members all know and interact regularly, and where the voters have close and easy contact with council members and candidates, that partisan identification would be useful to voters or helpful in identifying which candidates are likely to share voters' concerns or have backgrounds appropriate to dealing with the issues in front of the municipality. I recognize that these effects might be different in very large municipalities, particularly when those cities have very large councils. Applying such labels might possibly be helpful in Houston or Dallas, but while large numbers of people live in those places, the vast majority of cities that would be affected by this legislation are very different.

For those reasons, I oppose this legislation as it is. I would not oppose this legislation if it were bracketed to cities with over a million citizens.

Robert Flynn

Retired

San Antonio, TX

I disagree with this idea and I would vote against it.

Robert Flynn

Retired

San Antonio, TX

I agree with this.

Reuben Leslie

self, retired

Austin, TX

I oppose this bill because it unnecessarily requires a declaration on an issue that is not required for voters to judge a candidate in a nonpartisan election.

Susan Green

Self Accountant

Richardson, TX

I support HB 2092.

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Michele Lunday

Self - stay at home parent

Trophy Club, TX

Thank you for the opportunity for to share my thoughts on HB 2092. I oppose HB 2092. Most municipal elections have a tradition of being non-partisan, and they should stay that way. We do not need to provide more reason for divide in our local elections. A love and care for ones town should not be predicate on a party line. Thank you for your time.

Kimberly Carlile

Self Director of Purchasing Higher Education

Amarillo, TX

YES.

Cheryl Lamb

A Concerned Texas voter

El Paso, TX

Municipal elections should be non-partisan, but the voters should know which side of the aisle their candidate follows in political ideology.

Michelle Mostert

Self

Dripping Springs, TX

I SUPPORT HB-2092.

George Coyle

self

Bowie, TX

I support HB2092

Elizabeth Exley

Exley Farms

JARRELL, TX

Since it seems party affiliation is becoming more divisive and sneaky...it makes sense that candidates share their affiliation as part of public record when they declare their candidacy.

Elizabeth Dominguez

self/Speech Language Pathologist Assistant

Weslaco, TX

I am in favor of HB2092. I would like to know the party affiliation of the person that I am voting for. I want to be sure that my

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political beliefs align with the individual I am voting for.

Randy Reeves, Mr.

Self, retired

Tyler, TX

Goes without saying...in today's lying political arena. The first step to identifying a person's general position on issues is to state party affiliation. If they don't want to declare a party, it's pretty clear, they are the first liar in the room.

debra price

self

Mico, TX

Thank you for working to ensure that every legal ballot in Texas is counted and that voters are aware of the policies and practices of candidates who are running for office.

Chelsea Hampton

Self

THE COLONY, TX

I support HB2092 because city counsels & school boards have a lot of control locally. It's how police are refunded & sex Ed gets out of line. Knowing if someone is a conservative will help ensure voters who don't do their research, aren't inadvertently throwing their city/schools to the wolves.

Linda B Frank, Mrs

TTYRRW

Tomball, TX

Please help keep our elections without fraud

Dianne Guerry, Np

Self

Arlington, TX

It helps individuals to know what each person stands for when they share what their party affiliation is! This is Important to us voters! Thank you!

Rick Ramirez, Intergovernmental Relations Manager

City of Sugar Land

Sugar Land, TX

I am writing to express the City of Sugar Land's opposition to House Bill 2092 by Representative Sanford. The bill would require candidates for city office to declare party affiliation to run for city office and require the candidate's party affiliation to appear on the ballot next to the candidate's name. The Sugar Land City Council adopted a legislative position for the 2021 Legislative Session that supports legislation that increases voter participation so long as the non-partisan nature of municipal elections is retained.

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Citizens rely on local governments to provide a variety of essential public services - public safety, infrastructure, utilities, streets, parks, etc. - none of which are dependent on which particular party a council member is affiliated with. The inclusion of party politics into municipal government would have devastating impacts on the City's ability to efficiently respond to citizen needs.

Please protect the non-partisan nature of city government and oppose HB 2092.

Laurie Hawkins

self

HOUSTON, TX

I am in favor of requiring that candidates declare a party affiliation. We voters need to have more information about who we are voting for and what they represent.

MICHAEL FOSSUM

Self, engineer

Austin, TX

I support this bill, and I ask that you support it too. This will add more transparency to the voting process. Please vote for this bill. Thank you.

Alexa Aragonez

City of Arlington

Arlington, TX

Dear Chairman Cain,

I am writing on behalf of the City of Arlington to express our opposition to House Bill 2092 by Representative Sanford. The bill would require candidates for city office to declare party affiliation to run for city office and require the candidate's party affiliation to appear on the ballot next to the candidate's name.

H.B. 2092 would have a divisive impact on Arlington's local community and government. The City of Arlington's city council is a 9-member council made up of 5 single-member districts, 3 at-large seats, and myself as mayor. We represent one of the most diverse cities in the nation, and our council makeup truly represents that community. I am sure that my fellow council members come from a variety of backgrounds and political beliefs, yet we all take pride in our harmonious work that provides a better quality of life to our residents.

Partisan politics have no place in local government. Streets, water quality, public safety and other fundamental services that are uniquely city-provided affect Republicans, Democrats, Independents and all parties equally. Short of dyeing asphalt blue or red, there is no partisan way to filling potholes. Gridlock and polarizing issues do not have any bearing on how the city council plans for Arlington's future, and bringing those items into the discussion will only put obstacles on the policymaking process among councilmembers.

This year, WalletHub named the City of Arlington the most well-run city in the State of Texas, and we have achieved that without D's and R's tied to the names of our councilmembers. For those reasons and the negative impact that partisan ideology would have on the City of Arlington, please oppose H.B. 2092.

Sincerely,

Jeff Williams

Mayor, City of Arlington

Darren York

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Self - Industrial Engineering Consultant

Wolfe City, TX

I am writing to OPPOSE HB 2092. For the purposes of municipal elections a party affiliation should not be a requirement for being included on the ballot even if the allowance is made for declaring no party at all. Local municipal races should include local people known by their citizens and a party affiliation is not a requisite for being included on the ballot. Local people should have enough access to local candidates to understand what they stand for and make informed decisions without the mantle of party affiliation having to be a consideration. This would only promote a party selection which is more divisive in local settings than beneficial. Respectfully submitted and thank you for your considerations.

Allison Winter

self

Spring, TX

My name is Allison Winter, 31 Day Lily Place, Spring 77381. I am representing self.

I am expressing my SUPPORT for HB 2092 because I feel it is very important for voters to know party affiliation of candidates they are voting for whether deemed partisan or non-partisan elections.

In our county, we had seen candidates unknowingly be elected and put into office while uninformed voters were unaware of the candidates' party affiliation. Transparency is of utmost importance and voters need this information to be provided in order to make an informed decision. A candidate should not be allowed to hide their party affiliation.

Zoila Vega-Marchena, Dr

self, engineer

Austin, TX

I support this bill

Deborah Avellano, Mrs.

Self.

Corinth, TX

Chairman Cain and Members of the Texas House Elections Committee,

I, Deborah Avellano, Corinth, Texas (SD-12, HD-64) representing myself, come before you in Support of HB2092 on the requirement that candidates for municipal elective office declare a party affiliation. As our family recently moved from South Texas to North Texas, our newness to the region limits our ability to discern the candidates' true value leanings without that designation. It would provide another dimension of identifying that candidate's guidelines and boundaries.

Please move this bill forward for the benefit of our communities. Thank you.

Respectfully submitted, Deborah Avellano

cherie' king

Self

Haltom City, TX

Please don't pass this bill. We need less partisan politics, not more. Voting in non-partisan local elections have always been a

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breath of fresh air for me. I research the candidates and their policy positions, and vote for the person, not the party. Forcing candidates to declare a party benefits no one.

Kathryn Williams

Self/ Retired

Austin, TX

Opposed. This is a terrible idea. We are such a divided nation and state. Politicians pay lip service to wanting more unity and collegiality in the political process and in civic life. Cities, large and small are communities. Why would we want to start the political divide even deeper into our lives. I believe we should want to go the other way, that counties should be non-partisan. For so many people counties are their local government. Please don't make the nation more divided.

Laura Locastro Ogburn

Self Real Estate

Houston, TX

Why? We don't all need to join a team to have an answer, opinion or idea.

Skyler Korgel

Self, Manufacturing Engineer

Weatherford, TX

I oppose HB 2092 and urge members of the Elections Committee to not report this legislation favorably out of committee. Municipal governments and officials handle significantly different, more direct matters than those of the state and federal governments and, thus, do not deserve the same partisan polarization and grid lock at those levels. Voters also have significantly different expectations of their city government, mayor, and council members to work together quickly, intimately, and smoothly to accomplish goals that bear direct, immediate impact on constituents for critical services such as sturdy roads, zoning ordinances, cleanly public spaces, law enforcement, rent policies, etc. and imposing partisan labels and built-in factions will only degrade the effectiveness of municipal governments as they are now as nonpartisan bodies. Texas has no need and no time to waste on involving partisan labels that will decimate progressive rural officials and urban/suburban conservative officials from city governments. Please vote nay on this bill in committee and on the floor.