

PUBLIC COMMENTS

HB 2197

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON ELECTIONS

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Hearing Date: March 25, 2021 8:00 AM

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Britt Garner

self

Austin, TX

We already have secure elections and anything that makes voting more difficult is pure voter suppression.

Michelle Manning-Scott

Self/community volunteer with various Austin area non-profits

Austin, TX

I OPPOSE the passage of this bill and urge all lawmakers to vote AGAINST it.

Don Greenwell, Mr

myself

Fort Worth, TX

Please consider this bill elections need to be for residence only this is not the time to change the rules

Elizabeth Galiger

self. musician and teacher

Austin, TX

i was raised to believe democracy is a living thing, an action requiring citizen participation, a responsibility. i am in favor of everything that makes it easier for citizens to vote, from extended early voting, mail in and absentee voting, automatic voter registration, time off work to vote, etc. to be against these things is to be against the very concept of democracy. i certainly believe one should declare residence to vote, but i do not want it to be more difficult for college students, military, those in residential care facilities, etc.

Jane Moran

Self/Certified Financial Planner, retired and Real Estate investor

Gilchrist, TX

ID, ID, ID! Non citizens of the state of Texas are ineligible to vote - period.

I find it ironic that I must testify prior to submission of this comment form that I am a resident of Texas. But, if I wasn't, I could cheat and vote. Ironic? Yes. Logical, no.

Lydia Froncek

Self

Printed on: April 5, 2021 6:50 PM

Austin, TX

Vote no to Bill 2197 attempting to strip us of our constitutional right to vote. If someone can buy a gun and shoot 10 people dead on the same day, it should not be this damn hard to register to vote. This bill is fundamentally undemocratic and a disgrace to the great state of Texas that touts freedom and deregulation. Stop making it harder to cast our ballots. Vote no.

Sincerely,  
Lydia

Chris Garrett

self

Corpus Christi, TX

Duplicate voting is a problem & this bill should pass.

James Castagneto

Self/family retired teacher

Dripping Springs, TX

We have a good friend who's son received a mail in ballot and he's NOT a resident of Texas. They are ethical enough to not return it. Proof of residence is a must to determine a fair, ethical, and accurate election. We HAVE to show proof of who we are for

- a bank account
- check cashing
- loan application
- citation for vehicular violation

Then on an equal stance identification for voting should be required to maintain moral and constitutional values.

Kathy Ponce

Ellis County GOP and True Texas Project Ellis County

Maypearl, TX

Yes. When people move and go to vote into their new county why shouldn't they be required to fill out a statement of residence form? This ensures that multiple voting is not going on. Yes pass this bill out of committee

Kimberly Bridges Young

Self, Retired

CORPUS CHRISTI, TX

Vote yes! SoS managing voters' current county of residence prevents duplicate voting. Per my comments on HB 6, my friend has evidence that one of her dead relatives voted 10 times in November 2020.

Michelle Orcutt

Self

CORPUS CHRISTI, TX, TX

Registered voters, legal citizens only, must provide a valid verifiable address to vote!

Michelle Orcutt

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Self

CORPUS CHRISTI, TX, TX

Must have valid ID and Residence for a greater than 90 days to vote

Cheryl Lamb

Myself

El Paso, TX

In order to register documentation has already been submitted. This is another vulgar step to target undocumented persons. This is political theatrics. This puts a block on older persons who have foregone a drivers license. This puts a block on trans persons with different ID than appearance.

Helen CrisarlaHouston, Esq.

Self, Attorney

Waco, TX

The Texas legislature's efforts to make it harder for Texans to vote are unconscionable and should cease. If changes are made to the voting procedures, those changes should go further to lift impediments to voting. Voting is a fundamental right in our democracy. Voters are watching you all over the state and nation. We will unite to vote you out of office if you support this egregious attack on voting rights. It is clear that your efforts to pass laws that make it harder for Texans to vote are aimed at people of color who do not typically vote Republican. This assault on Texans' voting rights for these baseless and unjust reasons will be remembered at the polls. Remove impediments to fair and impartial elections if you do anything to change Texas laws on voting. Cease this disgraceful effort to suppress votes, and accept that the will of the people will be expressed at the polls regardless of whether you agree or disagree with the people. Voters will become more educated and motivated to protect their interests at the polls. Voters will not be bullied or silenced. We have a right to vote and to participate in this representative democracy. Do not pass unjust laws to hinder our ability to vote. We are watching you and are ready to stand up for our right to vote every time the polls open. Thank you for your time and consideration. Please do the right thing and stop all efforts to make it harder for Texans to vote. You have a moral obligation to do the right thing.

Mary Corbin

swe

Houston, TX

Add Precinct number in addition to the county.

Velvete Rojugbokan, Ms

Self- Registered Nurse

Highlands, TX

I need easy voting

Stop JimGrow

KRISTIN HAYES, DR

SELF, TEACHER

SAN ANTONIO, TX

OPPOSE

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Reuben Leslie

retired

Austin, TX

Adding county of residence to the voter registration card is unnecessary because the exact address is more easily confirmed to be in a county by the county voter registrar who receives the registrations and forwards it to the proper county. In many metropolitan areas with highly irregular boundaries between counties, many, especially residents who move frequently, know their city but learn which county they live in when trying to register to vote. Asking for county creates one more barrier to efficient voter registration.

Camille Eckersley

Self

Bluff Dale, TX

I believe the statement of residence must be required. This would help in stopping fraud and illegal voting. For those of us that are legitimate and legal voters, we are tired of all the fraud and illegal voters keeping our voices from being heard. It is your job to help in protecting our rights and ability to have our voices heard. I am asking that you pass bill 2197 to protect our rights and integrity of our vote.

Julie Dillon

Self

Grapevine, TX

We must have voter ID! Voting must be kept specifically for citizens! Please listen to the people of Texas!

Mary Fero

self

Austin, TX

As a former election staff member for nearly 10 years, I can attest that some people living in a city that spans multiple counties do not know which county they reside in - particularly if their residence is close to the county line. I think this bill is a good idea as long as it does not invalidate the statement of residence if the person fails to complete, or erroneously enters, their current (new) county.

Vivien Gant

Self

Porter, TX

Election fraud must be stopped!!!!

Mary Ann Cody

Self/Retired

Waco, TX

There should be absolutely no doubt that establishing residence in upcoming elections would be necessary. I am deeply concerned, as never before, about the ability of organized tyrannical groups guiding our elections!

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Sharon Peltzman, Mrs  
Self/retired school teacher  
Austin, TX

I urge all members to vote NO on HB 2197. We currently have fair laws regarding residence and voting on the books. There is no need to alter what is already in place. All registered voters have the right to vote and in registering, they have already provided residence information. Vote NO on HB 2197.

Ronnye W Cowell Cowell  
Retired  
HOUSTON, TX

My name is Ronnye Cowell and I live in congressional district 133, I am asking you to vote yes for the following Senate Bills that have been created to secure the integrity of our elections here in the state of Texas: HB6, HB2197, HB2318, HB3285. I am asking for you to vote against HB 2640.

I believe it is reasonable to have a voter identify what county they live in when casting a provisional ballot. I worked the polls on election day 2020. We had a person from Austin trying to vote in Houston and the PJ was going to allow them to vote in Harris county with a standard ballot. Makes no sense for someone that does not live in the area to vote when most of the races are not relevant to them.

Thank you for your time!

Victoria Nassif  
Self, Actor  
Austin, TX

I'm writing to voice my strong opposition to this bill, which contributes to voter suppression. We must make voting easy and simple so that all our residents have a voice in the future of our state.

Julia Dahlberg  
Self  
LA VERNIA, TX

I support HB2197 to require a voter to include their current county in statement of residence. Please pass this bill out of committee.

Eden Myers  
self (na)  
Austin, TX

This is admirable, but needless. What county a person resides in is easily determined from the address they give. It would be costly to redesign these forms, for no pressing purpose. In the small number of situations where I, as an elections worker, have needed to determine on the spot what county a person resided in, it was easily ascertained from the address. If it is not in the moment, then whatever data base an elections board is using can be programmed to fill this field in automatically from the registration address which has already been entered. Thank you, Eden Myers

Theresa Graves, Mrs.

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Accts Payable

Houston, TX

too many illegal documents were passed in the 2020 Election. I have been voting for many years and never heard of the deceitful ways of the 2020 election.

Bill Thoreson

Self; Retired

Dallas, TX

As an election judge in Dallas County, I am very glad to see this hole being plugged.

DONNA EYLES

Self

CORPUS CHRISTI, TX

Vote yes. This will ensure the voter is registered in the proper county and is on the correct voter roll; it would also ensure a person couldn't vote in multiple counties.

Wendy Kalthoff

Not Employed

Austin, TX

I am against people providing statement of residence, You have a lot of university students, who live at ut.

joanne groshardt, ms

self

richardson, TX

everyone deserves the right to vote, not just white, right-minded, crazy-Christian men and women,

Jessie Carlson

self

Corpus Chrsiti, TX

Please vote yes. This helps prevent duplicate voting.

Pamela Leach

Self. SignMakers owner

Gilmer, TX

Protect our constitution and hold our positions and win elections in 2022

Donnelle Storrs, DNP, FNP

self nurse practitioner

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San Antonio, TX

I am against HB 2197. There is no need to add a slot for county on the ballot. This bill is not needed and seeks to suppress voters.

Marlow Newton

Self

The Woodlands, TX

Dear Committee Members,

I firmly support this bill. I believe that it is critical that we ensure that voters are voting in the correct county of Texas. I believe the more details we provide in our legal language the better for secure, honest elections going forward.

Sincerely,

Marlow Newton