

PUBLIC COMMENTS

HB 3297

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON ELECTIONS

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Hearing Date: April 8, 2021 8:00 AM

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Rachel Muir

Self

Austin, TX

I am a voter, a taxpayer, a working mom and I OPPOSE house bill 6 & senate bill 7!!!

Republicans are desperate to strip away people's voting rights, making it harder for people to vote.

This is an assault on our democracy!

??????

House Bill 6 and Senate Bill 7 are anti-democratic, anti-voter assaults on the right to vote. These bills:

- \*Strip voter rights
- \*Financially burden local governments
- \*Discourage poll workers
- \*Elevate partisan poll watcher power above election official authority
- \*Ban drive-through and outdoor voting
- \*Restrict voters from dropping off completed absentee ballots
- \*Shrink early voting periods
- \*Create new costs for disabled voters
- \*Increase burdens on voters with disabilities to access assistance at the polls

Oppose them!

Darlene Towe

SELF

Pampa, TX

THESE PEOPLE WHO DID COMMIT ELECTION FRAUD SHOULD BE PUNISHED FOR THE CRIMES THAT THEY ARE ALREADY GUILTY OF AND NOT BE ALLOWED TO GO FREE!!!!

Marga Matthews

Myself

Baytown, TX

We have to make sure that the people working elections understand that they will be prosecuted if fraud is involved!!!!

Lisa Hale

Self

Liberty Hill, TX

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In favor of

Carrie Moore

Self

Corpus Christi, TX

Vote yes- Heck ya, bigger penalty for voter fraud

Jessie Carlson

self

Corpus Chrsiti, TX

Vote yes. Tougher penalties will help deter fraud.

Larry Ringler

Self-retired

Portland, TX

Vote YES to increase penalties for voter fraud, which naturally will reduce voter fraud.

Beverly Johnson

self/retired

Corpus Christi, TX

Election fraud disenfranchises my vote. It is theft.

shawn flanagan

self/retired

corpus christi, TX

Vote yes, election fraud is serious and should be punished

Gyla Fowler, Ms

Gyla Fowler

Austin, TX

The changes you're proposing is antithetical to the excercise of each person's right to vote. By making this process more diifficult, you are suberting democracy.

Amanda Friedeck, Mrs.

Silver Star Food Stores/BRANDS Marketing Group, LLC

Alice/Jim Wells County, TX

I am in favor with HB 3297. Please consider to pass this House Bill to cut the loopholes in the election system.

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Richard Smith

Self

Corpus christi, TX

Vote yes yes yes, make it a heavy penalty for more of a deterrant

Jo Foley

Self N/A

Henderson, TX

I support HB 3297. I am asking the committee to bring forth HB6 and vote it out of committee to calendars. It is an extremely important bill. Word is that our House Republicans have become weak toward this bill due to democrat voices bombarding them with negative views. Please do not submit to that. We NEED HB6. Please review during this hearing and vote it out of committee.

Victoria Hanson

self - retired

Corpus Christi, TX

Vote yes on HB 3297

Voter fraud is a serious offense. For every fraudulent vote cast, one authentic vote is canceled. The criminal penalty should reflect the seriousness of the crime.

Kelly Waswil

Self

Katy, TX

Paper ballots only. Massive evidence fraud using machines all cities; Dallas, TX, Antrim MI. Who ordered counting to stop Nov 3/4 at exact time? Fractured votes, 68.5% adjudication for Republican ballots, weighted vote 1.26 Biden, .74 Trump, internet, vote switching, foreign interference. Until you fix 2020, no 2022. Top priority no absentee ballots, no harvesting, signature verification. Republican ballot counters. We are now Venezuela

DONNA EYLES

Self

CORPUS CHRISTI, TX

Vote yes!!! Not only do we need to increase the penalties for voter fraud, but we must try people for the crime of voter fraud! WE NEED THIS BILL PASSED INTO LAW!

Kimberly Bridges Young

Self, Retired

CORPUS CHRISTI, TX

Vote yes! Increase the penalty for voter fraud and you'll see less voter fraud.

Melissa Spence

Precinct Chair

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Allen, TX

I support this bill. We need to have strict penalties for attempts to fraud an election.

Jesse Suarez

Rabalais I&E Constructors

Corpus Christi, TX

Voter fraud is a serious offense and requires serious consequences that this bill provides. Please vote yes on HB 3297

Gwen Withrow, SREC SD 4

SREC Texas Republican Party

Beaumont, TX

Testify for the Bill ---Making sure our elections are fair and honest and that every vote is counted is the number one priority of the Voters of Texas. It is important that those who would destroy that right by various acts of voter fraud understand that there will be penalties. Please vote this bill to the floor.

Shantia Reese

Self

Austin, TX

Corporations are not people and do not get to vote with their dollars. People are people and use their voices to vote in the ballot box. These laws are anti-democratic and you need to vote no as it is making it harder for individuals to help. No one should alter any results from a ballot and allowing others to help people you need that support when filling it out they should not be penalized. The republican party thinks it should be easier to own a gun than it is to vote. You said that you are for common-sense laws that protect voting. In the U.S. Constitution, it is a right and a privilege, and your party is trying to limit that, which is disturbing as you condemn democrats for adding in gun laws that protect people from dangerous weapons. How are the proposed bills by the republican party for Texas common-sense bills? They are restricting access because you all want to control who elects you. If you want to protect voting rights for the people, you will get rid of the redlining that limits and determines who represents us in the senate and house that disenfranchises minority communities by lumping them into districts Republican voters. You would be allowing their voices to be heard by creating a system that allows them to vote for who they want. I am for increasing access for more people to vote and not less. It should not be harder to vote in this country or state than to buy a gun. Voting allows us to determine who decides how our government will function to protect us; buying a gun allows you to hurt people with that gun. It appears that the Republican party is aiming to control who has the ability to put them in power but the most recent laws that add restrictions to voting. There has been no evidence of voter fraud from the 2020 election, and your party choosing to use the Big Lie to enact these restrictions is Ludacris. The slogan is "Don't Mess with Texas" please refrain from altering how Texans choose their leadership by enforcing laws and restrictions that do not help the people use their voting rights. You should vote in favor of S.4263 - John Lewis Voting Rights Advancement Act, and you should also make the election day a state holiday. Hence, individuals get the day off to have access to go vote, and service workers (who work in groceries, fast food, etc.) who cannot get off can submit absentee ballots and cast their votes. This would be the correct way to ensure all Texans and Americans can use their right as there is no voter fraud with the system we have other than when the Russians hacked the 2017 elections when Trump won, and those investigations were not changed. It appears that republicans only want to change voting laws when mass amounts of minority people use their voice. You should be voting yes on the John Lewis voting rights act as it is clear the federal government cares more about protecting voting rights than many state leaders. We need to stop putting party over people and have more social ethics when creating laws.

Julie Kellogg

self

Corpus Christi, TX

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Vote yes, increase the penalty for anyone committing fraud in an election. Fraud takes away my vote

Rebecca Broughton

Self

Seguin, TX

I am in Favor of HB 3297. Per SOS, Local Government, Courts - No significant fiscal implication is anticipated. Please Vote Yah on HB 3297.

It is Important to hold those accountable for the integrity of fair elections that try to commit fraud. Elections impact every citizen & non-citizen in the United States of America.

Staci Mendelsohn

self

Plano, TX

I am opposed to this bill and want you to vote no. The bill continue to criminalize every aspect of the elections process. We rely on members of our communities to run smooth elections as election officials, poll workers and voter assistants. These bills add and expand criminal penalties for making honest mistakes. HB 3297 threatens individuals who make innocent mistakes on registration applications with second degree felonies (the same felony class as manslaughter and aggravated assault).

Lisa Nilsson

Self, Bexar County Republican Election Integrity Committee

Boerne, TX

I support this bill.

Veronica Morales

Self

Dallas, TX

It has already been proven that there is little to no election fraud occurring. Please spend the time on more viable things & vote NO.

Kathy Turner

self, retired

McGregor, TX

I support this bill. Penalties are needed to deter illegal actions in elections.

Tanya Robertson, Senate District 11 SREC

Self

Taylor Lake Village, TX

IN FAVOR of HB 3297

Nancy True

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Self

Hickory Creek, TX

SUPPORT HB 3297, ALLISON

From 2010 through 2019, I have observed a broad range of election/voter fraud and irregularities while serving in an official capacity as both Election Clerk and Poll Watcher in Dallas County General and Primary Elections, as well as City of Dallas Municipal Elections, during both Early Voting and on Election Days, to include local polling locations and Dallas County Central Count. Generally speaking, I support election reform, legislation that improves transparency, limits opportunity for fraudulent/tampering activity, and enhances assurances every LEGAL vote, from every legally QUALIFIED VOTER, is accurately counted in our elections to ensure proper representation in elected government positions.

Especially with my experience performing as a Poll Watcher in Dallas County Central Count, my awareness of the lack of attention given to COUNTING accuracy within the election process has been heightened. I strongly support strengthening enforcement measures, to include within the “counting of votes” phases, to ensure HONEST election totals. Therefore I support HB 3297, providing meaningful penalty for violation of our state election statutes, and am particularly appreciative of its specific reference to counting/not counting of valid/invalid votes. I respectfully urge Chairman Cain to bring HB 3297 up for a committee vote and committee members to vote it favorably out of committee.