

PUBLIC COMMENTS

HB 4369

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON ELECTIONS

Hearing Date: April 8, 2021 8:00 AM

Margaret McEwen

Self

Plano, TX

Voting by mail is an essential and safe way for anyone to vote. Any limits on this is voter support.

Shannon Malburg

Self / Nonprofit and small business consultant

Waco, TX

Please do not pass this bill. What a shame to live in a country with a history of citizen participation and a democracy of the people, by the people and for the people, yet to restrict the right and ability to vote our seniors, disabled making the process more cumbersome and confusing and dissuading honest voting people from casting their ballot and voice. You are on the wrong side of history with this bill. Looking back this will be a shameful time in the history of this state and this nation.

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!

Morgan Peretti

self

Printed on: April 26, 2021 12:07 PM

New Braunfels, TX

This bill is trying to solve a problem that doesn't exist and only prevents or discourages qualified people from voting. Our state already suffers from low voter participation. I question the intentions of this bill as the outcome would only disproportionately impact voters of color and young voters who are more vulnerable. If there is in fact a problem, it's your duty to find solutions that serve and protect everyone. Because of the disproportionate impact, this is not the right solution. As your constituent, I fervently urge you all to vote NO on this bill.

Lisa Hale

Self

Liberty Hill, TX

In favor of

Crisarla Houston

Self, Attorney

Waco, TX

Texas voters have a right to vote that should not be limited. Please do not pass voting laws that make it harder for people to exercise their constitutional right to vote. We are watching our leaders, and we will not be deterred from voting. We will work hard to vote out leaders who limit people's ability to vote in any way. Thank you.

John Sefcik

self

Fairview, TX

April 6, 2021

Re: Support for HB4369

I support HB4369 that codifies measures to verify the signature match between application for ballot by mail, ballot envelope and application for voter registration. This will enhance the integrity of the ballot by mail voting process.

I ask that you vote for this bill in its present form and for its provisions in committee and on the floor of the House.

John Sefcik

(972)365-4394

jds@sefcik.net

Member of the Republican Club at Heritage Ranch

www.republicanclubattheranch.com

Karen George

Self

Bacliff, TX

Regardless of how it's dressed up, I OPPOSE ANY & ALL TEXAS VOTER SUPPRESSION: I oppose HB6 and your disrespect towards Rep. Collier, Chairwoman for the House Legislative Black Caucus.

Elba Wilson

Printed on: April 26, 2021 12:07 PM

Myself

Round Rock, TX

Mail in ballots should be allowed.

Carrie Moore

Self

Corpus Christi, TX

Vote Yes- with HB 3080 would make voter identification so much more effective.

Jessie Carlson

self

Corpus Chrsiti, TX

Vote yes. More thorough signature verification is always a good thing.

Larry Ringler

Self-retired

Portland, TX

Vote YES for one of my favorite bills. It helps ensure that the signatures of the voter and the person who signed the application match. It helps to add 6 years of signatures for comparison helps fix this problem. Adding thumbprint verification with HB 3080 is even better.

shawn flanagan

self/retired

corpus christi, TX

Vote yes! This tightens security on mail in ballots where most fraud occurs

Richard Smith

Self

Corpus christi, TX

Vote ues

Richard Smith

Self

Corpus christi, TX

Vote yes

Amanda Friedeck, Mrs.

Silver Star Food Stores/BRANDS Marketing Group, LLC

Printed on: April 26, 2021 12:07 PM

Alice/Jim Wells County, TX

I am in favor with HB 4369. Please consider to pass this House Bill to cut the loopholes in the election system.

Jo Foley

Self N/A

Henderson, TX

I support HB 4369. 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.

Monica Carson

self

Bastrop, TX

All signatures need to be verified.

Victoria Hanson

self - retired

Corpus Christi, TX

Vote yes on HB 4369

This is an excellent bill to ensure signatures are validated.

DONNA EYLES

Self

CORPUS CHRISTI, TX

Vote yes. This bill is an ABSOLUTE MUST! Currently, we ballot board workers are comparing signatures from the mail-in ballot request to the carrier envelopes containing ballots. It is too easy for someone other than the actual voter to request a mail-in ballot, get the ballot, and return it to vote; the signatures will match even though it is not the actual person. However, if we match signatures against a voter registration card, it would preclude anyone other than the voter getting and returning a ballot. (Having a thumbprint is even better.)

Kimberly Bridges Young

Self, Retired

CORPUS CHRISTI, TX

Vote yes! This is one of the best bills that I've read, regarding Election Integrity. According to friends that have served as election officials, comparison of signatures from the voter and the person who signed the application and carrier envelope hasn't been thorough. Adding 6 years of signatures for comparison fixes this problem. Adding thumbprint verification from HB 3080 is even better.

Jesse Suarez

Rabalais I&E Constructors

Printed on: April 26, 2021 12:07 PM

Corpus Christi, TX

I like this bill. Signatures need to be checked to make sure the person who requested ballot and not some third party actually filled out ballot and carrier envelope. Please vote yes on HB 4369

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 on it as it bans 24-hour voting, voting by mail is helpful for so many reasons and these laws make it harder when you need this convenience to execute your right. 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

Vote yes, this is an excellent bill, absolutely add more verification for the voter makes all of us confident that our votes are guarded and provides more trust in our elections

Rebecca Broughton

Self

Seguin, TX

I am in Favor of HB 4369. Per SOS - No significant fiscal implication to the State is anticipated. If counties are not verifying signatures it is rip for voter fraud. Signatures should have a permanent place with the SOS & be updated to counties before elections as people move around Texas and into Texas. DPS could be a great resource for signatures of new residence to Texas as everyone needs ID to go to doctor, buy certain products, purchase vehicle, receive utilities, bank functions, etc. Reasonable impediment with documentation to show residence could also be used as well as out of State ID with proof of Texas Residence. Election Integrity is Very Much Needed to Stop Voter Fraud. Ask yourself... Everything is ID accessible & Elections should be too. Every Legal Vote Counts.

Printed on: April 26, 2021 12:07 PM

Martina Sutton

Self

Cedar Park, TX

I am AGAINST this bill.

Here are my detailed HB4369 Objections:

- 1) Section 1: Requires copies of applications for ballots by mail AND copies of voter's signature from voter registration application to be made and sent to early voting ballot board. This making and distributing of more copies opens up more opportunities for identity theft. All of this information should be in a secured elections database that elections officials can access in a secure fashion. This information should NOT be hard-copied and distributed.
- 2) Section 2: Requires an added step for the early voting board to review the application for ballot by mail before reviewing the carrier envelope certificate containing the marked ballot. This step will already have been done by the early voting clerk prior to sending a ballot by mail to the voter applicant. The current election code requirement is for the early ballot board to confirm that the voter submitting the ballot by mail is on the list of confirmed ballot by mail applicants that the early voting clerk has already vetted before sending the ballot to that voter. This change adds an unnecessarily redundant step that slows the entire process down and also requires distribution of items (see item 1 above) that can lead to more opportunities for identity theft.

Marcela Martinez

Self

Weslaco, TX

Vote in person.

Lisa Nilsson

Self, Bexar County Republican Election Integrity Committee

Boerne, TX

I support this bill.

Veronica Morales

Self

Dallas, TX

Vote by mail ballots are important to the elderly & disables as is the entire voting process as it exists. Vote NO.

Kathy Turner

self, retired

McGregor, TX

I support this bill.

Kathryn Williams

self/retired

Austin, TX

HB 4369. OPPOSED Provides additional information for the ballot board, which might be good. However, I'm not sure there's existing reliable technology or that counties have the budgets for such equipment.

Printed on: April 26, 2021 12:07 PM

Tanya Robertson, Senate District 11 SREC

Self

Taylor Lake Village, TX

IN FAVOR of HB 4369