

**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
COMPILATION OF PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Submitted to the Committee on Elections
For SB 1661

Compiled on: Thursday, April 27, 2023 10:50 PM

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Hearing Date: April 27, 2023 10:30 AM - or upon final adjourn./recess or bill referral if permission granted

Tomalea Bench, Mrs
Self homemaker
Huntsville, TX

I support thus

Tomalea Bench, Mrs
Self homemaker
Huntsville, TX

I support this

Marisa Williams
Self/SAHM
McKinney, TX

I support SB 1661 as everyone wants to ensure all votes are counted accurately in the tabulation process. Thank you Sen Hughes for SB 1661.

Kathy Haigler
Self - election consultant
Dale, TX

I SUPPORT SB 1661. This is a good practice to provide ballot more security.

Chris Donofrio
Self
The Woodlands, TX

I support SB 1661, engrossed version.
Please pass it out of committee.

Respectfully,
Chris J. Donofrio

Sylvia Coulson
Self
Waxahachie, TX
I support this bill.

Sylvia Coulson
Self
Waxahachie, TX
I support this bill.

Randy Bellomy, Mr.
Self retired
Ovilla, TX
As Ellis County Republican Party Chairman we need this bill to be passed.

Jeff Clay
Bexar County Election Integrity
San Antonio, TX

I am a computer engineer and have seen several articles lately about how this technology does not exist and will cost millions. There are commercially available USB drives that are Write Once Read Many (WORM). They are made by Flexxon company and could be used with slight modifications to the existing systems. This would however bring in potential certification issues. However, the wording in this bill that the system be ONLY capable of using WORM data transfer media is not possible. This would have to be completely built in to the system and the data transfer media and would be cost prohibitive. Using WORM technology also does nothing about the potential for fraud in the proprietary software or the possibility of switching USB drives with another fraudulent USB drive.

Patricia Snyder, Ms
myself
Richmond, TX

This bill could help verify voting counts and speed results.

George Brian Vachris, P.E.
self / retired
Humble, TX

I support this bill.
I also wish to put the following sidebar statement into the record to provide legislators with perspective. I wish to emphasize that I am an Election Judge in Texas and was formerly a Polling Place Moderator in Connecticut (an Equivalent Position). Accusations of voter suppression by the State of Texas are absolutely false. Some people have claimed that requiring voter identification restricts voter participation. The State of Connecticut requires voter identification. Some people have claimed that limits on Absentee Voting restrict voter participation. The State of Connecticut limits those who may vote by Absentee Ballot. Some people have claimed that restricted early voting periods limit voter participation. Until 2023, Connecticut had no early voting at all. There are current bills in the Connecticut Legislature to create a two week period of early voting. Some people have claimed that convicted felons in prison should be able to vote. Connecticut prohibits voting by felons serving time. This comparative information is presented to give the Texas legislature some perspective on the relative ease of voting in Texas as compared to at least one other state where I personally worked as a Polling Place Moderator, Head Republican Town Election Moderator, and Town Absentee Vote Election Moderator.

Melinda Roberts
Bexar County Election Integrity
San Antonio, TX

We're in favor of SB 1661 due to the irregularities we experience in Bexar County. We have documented and have sworn Affidavits regarding problems with the current voting system. An election could NOT stand up in a court of law as a certifiable election with our current voting system. We must move to a system that isn't internet connected and is open sourced.

Teresa McCollum
self
Borger, TX

This bill is excellent and I fully support passage.

Teresa McCollum
self
Borger, TX

I support passage of this bill if the legislature fails to pass HB5234 to ensure transparent and honest elections. The inability of a storage device described in the text of the bill is a question, but if a device exists that "once written cannot be modified" truly exists, it will help ensure the security of our 1st Amendment by allowing the voice (by their vote) of all Texans be heard.

Nathan Bicketstaff
GOP
Midlothian, TX
Support these bills

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Patricia Moore

"self" Retired Teacher Alief ISD/ currently Alief ISD substitute teacher
Houston, TX

I urge all representatives to vote yes to protect Texas cast vote records.

Ernestine Weiser

Self

Gainesville, TX

No machine counting. Get rid of machines. HAND VOUNT ONLY.