

Koy Kunkel_SC

From: applications.administrator@capitol.local
Sent: Saturday, July 10, 2021 4:50 PM
To: Senate Redistricting
Subject: INETMAIL: Redistricting Public Input

Date: 2021-07-10
First Name: Aimee
Last Name: Carpenter
Title: N/A
Organization: Self
Address: [REDACTED]
City: Austin
State: TX
Zipcode: [REDACTED]
Phone: [REDACTED]

Affirm public info: I agree

Regarding: Senate

Message:

Thank you for allowing me to give testimony today. My name is Aimee, and I am a resident of Austin. I am writing on my own behalf, but also on the behalf of my friends and acquaintances who may not have the time or resources to comment.

I vehemently oppose the voter suppression bill SB1 and I am pleading with you that you vote against it. Simply put, these are intentional and unnecessary barriers to the ballot box. It...

Prohibits election officials from distributing or soliciting absentee ballot applications to voters.

Banning drive-through voting

Banning early voting sites not located inside buildings
Banning 24 hour early voting
Require voters to supply their driver license number or SSN on mail ballot applications and mail ballot envelopes, which must match the corresponding ID number on file
Giving partisan watchers special rights to intimidate voters and disrupt polling places
Creating vague criminal penalty against "vote harvesting" that could encompass ordinary interactions between campaigns and voters
Making it a felony for someone to be paid to assist voters who vote by mail (with a limited exception)
Requiring voter assistants to complete additional forms & oaths under penalty of perjury
Preventing local election officials from proactively and accurately informing voters about their voting options
Limiting local election officials' ability to adapt their offices' procedures to unforeseen circumstances and local conditions
Preventing local election officials from providing voting resources based on their knowledge of local needs and voting patterns.

As Texans, we deserve REAL solutions to REAL PROBLEMS that our state is facing like the devastating impacts of the pandemic, and strains on the grid system. Not Jim Crow laws in a suit and tie.

The voter suppression scheme being pushed this session does nothing to advance our democracy and only further silences the voices of Texas voters. For democracy to work for all of us, it must include us all.

You should oppose this bill in its entirety because it is a shameless attempt to make voting in Texas harder, especially for communities of color and young voters. Voting rights are the bedrock of our democracy.

