

I am the current Deputy Director of the Henry County Board of Elections and a former office clerk. I respectfully submit testimony on my own behalf as I believe it is pertinent as an Elections Official to improve the accessibility and integrity of our elections.

Therefore, I am an advocate for SB21 which would allow Boards of Elections to reduce the minimum number of precinct election officials in a precinct where electronic pollbooks are used. In a polling location where three precincts are combined, we employ twelve people using three electronic pollbooks. The amount of people necessary to run any election could easily be reduced without creating a potential to lose any of the features that make Ohio's election procedures safe and convenient for our voters.

SB21 will reduce the costs to the county when employing only those Precinct Election Officials needed per election. Our county has a greater affiliation with one major political party, consequently causing a constant struggle to secure pollworkers affiliated with the opposing party. Many of our long-term pollworkers are reaching an age where they will no longer be able to assist at the polls. It is our duty as election officials to maintain and educate workers who will conduct themselves in a nonpartisan manner. SB21 will allow us allocate our resources at the optimal level for each election that we conduct. That's good practice in any county.

I, therefore, urge passage of SB21 and thank Sen. Eucker, the co-sponsors and other members of the Ohio Senate for their continued work in helping us improve the quality and efficiency of elections in Ohio, while keeping ease of voter accessibility at the forefront and the highest of integrity in our election systems.

Thank you for your consideration.

Mary Detmer  
Henry County Board of Elections