

WITNESS INFORMATION FORM

PLEASE COMPLETE THE WITNESS INFORMATION FORM BEFORE TESTIFYING

DATE: June 3, 2020

NAME: Jean Marie Parker

ORGANIZATION: n/a
(IF APPLICABLE)

POSITION/TITLE: n/a

ADDRESS: 12869 Fox Run Ct

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ARE YOU REPRESENTING: YOURSELF ORGANIZATION

DO YOU WISH TO TESTIFY ON

LEGISLATION (BILL NUMBER): House Bill 680

SPECIFIC ISSUE: _____

SUBJECT MATTER: _____

DO YOU FAVOR _____ OR OPPOSE THE ENACTMENT OF LEGISLATION REGARDING THIS ISSUE?

PLEASE GIVE A BRIEF STATEMENT OF THE GROUNDS ON WHICH YOU FAVOR OR OPPOSE SUCH

ENACTMENT: I pride myself on voting in all elections, big and small. This spring, I planned to vote in person. Then, COVID. My daughter is medically fragile and I needed to find a way to both protect her and vote. I requested an absentee ballot, a confusing process. It arrived late, if not for the extension, I would not have been able to vote. As it was I had to immediately ...

WILL YOU HAVE A WRITTEN STATEMENT, VISUAL AIDS, OR OTHER MATERIAL TO DISTRIBUTE?

YES No

(IF YES, PLEASE PROVIDE COPIES TO THE CHAIRMAN OR SECRETARY)

HOW MUCH TIME WILL YOUR TESTIMONY REQUIRE? written

... request another absentee ballot and wait for several weeks for it to arrive, if I had not immediately requested one, I would have missed voting for the first time in 25 years. COVID is not going away. And we know that disenfranchisement is a problem in our state. I have a computer and internet connection to check my ballot request →

status, I have a car to get to my polling place and another car if that one breaks down. I have someone to watch my daughter, and access to supplies to disinfect, and PPE, if I need to leave. The State process for advanced voting and absentee voting has flaws. Combined with the need to limit exposure as we continue to battle the pandemic, and the very real circumstances that limit access for many Ohians who rely on libraries for internet access and public transportation for mobility, who work multiple jobs at times which make it a herculean process to vote, we cannot afford to make it even more difficult to vote. And that is what HB 680 does.

Look around you today. Ohians are disenfranchised - their voices are not heard. We are leaving behind our fellow citizens. We need more voter engagement, not less. Vote against House Bill 680.

Thank you for your time -

Jean M Parker
