

I am an Ohio voter, a retired attorney, a precinct official in Hamilton County, and a past poll watcher. Working at the polls has required me to vote by mail by necessity. I have experienced voting myself and aided others to do so for many elections. Ohio voters desire and deserve a process that is simple, uncomplicated, accessible, free, and devoid of unnecessary obstructions for exercising their most basic constitutional right, to vote. HB 680 proposes to make voting needlessly complex, less available, and expensive. As such it should be defeated. Additionally, Ohio's recent primary in the midst of the COVID pandemic was marred by last minute conflicting information and instructions. Voters did not know where, how, or if to vote. Poll workers did not know whether to show up for work. The chaos was avoidable. Ohio voters want their Legislators of both parties, Governor, and Courts to work together for a better result in November. We expect the pandemic to persist in some fashion through the fall. Now is the time to plan for a system that encourages as many voters as are able to vote by mail to keep all voters and poll workers safe. HB 680 would achieve the opposite, therefore I strongly oppose it.