

Chair Ray, Vice Chair LaRe, Ranking Member Brent and members of the House General Committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony regarding SB293. My name is Deborah Thompson. I am a retired therapist who has consistently voted and spent many years registering voters, and I am strongly opposed to this proposal.

The right to vote is the foundation of our democracy, and any impediments to that right should be rejected. This bill will disenfranchise thousands of legal voters—military personnel, the elderly, students, and working individuals. We all know that the mail system is not infallible and sometimes not even reliable.

If a ballot is postmarked on or before Election Day, it should be counted. Allowing four days for it to arrive is not unreasonable. Millions of Ohioans have cast mail-in ballots trusting that their voices will be heard.

I urge you to vote against this bill and to honor the rights of all voting Ohioans.