

Chair Roegner, Vice Chair Gavarone, Ranking Member Blackshear, and members of the Senate General Government Committee,

Thank you for allowing me to testify today. My name is Nusrat Mehdi, I am resident of Berea, Ohio. I am strongly opposed to SB 153.

I am a naturalized citizen of this country. I registered to vote at the downtown Cleveland Federal building right after my naturalization ceremony. I came from a country that did not have free and fair elections and where citizens were disenfranchised by design. This bill if enacted will also disenfranchise Ohioans and will lead to voter suppression. This bill is not going to prevent voter fraud because in the post 2024 election audit the Secretary of State said and I quote " As 2024 comes to a close, I am proud to announce yet another 99.9% audit accuracy rate". Clearly the intent of this bill is not to prevent voter fraud as there is no large scale voter fraud in Ohio, in fact it is very rare.

I ask you to consider my testimony and vote No on this shameful attempt to suppress the voices of Ohio voters. We elect you to make Ohio a better place for all Ohioans and in order for that to work every Ohioan who is eligible to vote should be able to vote and not be hindered by the government.

Thank You,

Nusrat Mehdi