

Good afternoon I am Peter Maxwell.

**Voting is the cornerstone of our democracy - our nation's strength.
It should be encouraged, not unnecessarily restricted.**

Yesterday I served as a Precinct Election Official in Westerville.

The officials at my precinct cannot not come up with **any** reason why instituting significant changes will provide any positive benefits.

The Secretary of State's large poster that we placed at our polling location proclaimed **"Statewide results show a 99.98% accuracy rate in the 2020 election."**

In the Secretary of State website, Frank LaRose further stated:

"The accuracy rate should reinforce every voter's belief that their vote mattered and was counted accurately.

Ohioans can be proud that our state runs secure and fair elections.

I put my faith in the bipartisan local election officials who do the tireless work of running our elections."

Despite this endorsement, legislators overhauled the voting process in 2023, implementing drastic changes. The additional requirements and limits make voting **much** more difficult for many Ohioans.

Apparently legislators **still** do not share **Frank LaRose's faith** in **either** the state's election process **or** the ability of bipartisan local election officials to run secure and fair elections.

How many bills are you going to enact this year to further obstruct citizens' ability to vote?

The 99.98% accuracy of our voting results demonstrates that no changes are required.

Stop placing further obstacles on citizens participating in elections and on the officials assisting them.

You should be encouraging, not restricting voting.