Neutral Testimony on House Bill 2339

House Committee on Elections Davis Hammet Loud Light Civic Action February 16, 2021

Chair Carpenter, Members of the Committee,

General Questions of Concern

Does Sec.1(2) of this bill impact voters who are concealing their paper ballot at the voting location? Does Sec.1(2) of this bill prevent voters from spoiling a ballot they have mismarked to cast a new ballot? Are the actions in Sec.1(2), Sec.1(3), and Sec.1(4) already illegal under another statute? Could the intention of this bill better be served by simply adding "attempting to change" between "making" and "changing any election record" in Sec.1(1)?

Neutral

I agree it should not be legal to hack the election results, but it's unclear if this bill would actually make something illegal which is currently legal. If there is a hole in statute that's preventing real crimes and threats from being addressed then I do support the committee carefully crafting language to clarify election crimes by individuals charged with no election duty.

I hope this committee will do its best to ensure there are no negative unintended consequences to this bill, and show restraint to prevent an already lengthy and messy election statutes section from growing longer with unnecessary language.

Thank you for considering my testimony, Davis Hammet