

Senate Committee on Federal and State Affairs
Sen. Robert Olson, Chair
Sen. Richard Hilderbrand, Vice-Chair
Thursday, February 10, 2022

Opposition to SB 388, Requiring the use of the United States postal service when returning an advance ballot by mail

Dear Chair Olson, Vice-Chair Hilderbrand and members of the Committee,

I urge you to vote NO on SB 388. Ballot drop boxes have been used, without incident, as a convenient and secure way for voters to participate in elections. Our elections offices and officials have worked diligently and faithfully to ensure safe and secure elections. These drop boxes are a safe and effective means for all citizens to vote, but is particularly useful for families with children and people with disabilities.

As a parent of a child with a disability, access to ballot drop boxes has been a tremendous asset. Families like mine live with constant unpredictability. Illness, hospitalizations, and changes in medical condition can drastically change our lives and focus. It doesn't take much for things outside of our immediate children and lives to be forgotten. Having access to secure drop boxes eliminates the worry of missing a deadline or if the mail will be received in time. Particularly over the last several years, my family has voted by advance ballot and used drop boxes for this reason. It is convenient for all and a necessary accommodation for us.

Removing safe and secure ballot boxes would only serve to make the voting process more difficult, which should not be the goal. Please oppose SB 388.

Respectfully,

Laura K. Robeson
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