

Taylor, Laura

From: Legislative Assembly of Ontario
Sent: October 28, 2020 7:52 PM
To: Standing Committee on Justice Policy
Cc: Teng, Deborah
Subject: Webform submission: Submission of material 23686

Submitted on Wed, 10/28/2020 - 19:38

Application ID: 23686

Submitted values are:

Bill or item of business: **Bill 218, Supporting Ontario's Recovery and Municipal Elections Act, 2020**

Choose a topic

Do you know the bill title or business (e.g., pre-budget consultations) you'd like to speak or submit material about?

Yes

Choose an application

Which application would you like to submit?

Submit material only

Which deadline would you like to submit your written material for?

[Written Submission deadline: 7:00 p.m. \(EST\) on Wednesday, November 4, 2020](#)

Add your information

Are you submitting material as an individual or on behalf of an organization?

I am an employee or member submitting material on behalf of an organization

Full name

Kevin Bowman

Job title or role

Spokesperson

Organization name

Democracy Guelph

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Province or state
Ontario

Country
Canada

Paste submission

I am writing on behalf of Democracy Guelph, a multi-partisan group of 300+ who care about ensuring our democracy is representative and accountable. I am urging the committee NOT to move forward with the repeal of provisions in the Municipal Act that allow for the use of Ranked Ballots. What "problem" is this repeal supposed to solve? None. In fact it creates problems. The city of London will have to spend time and money to revert back to First Past the Post and the cities of Cambridge and Kingston among others will have spent valuable time and resources consulting the public via referenda and other methods for nothing. Whether you like the idea of Ranked Ballots or not is irrelevant. The fact is that local governments should be at liberty to select their own leadership however they see fit so long as it is a democratic process. This repeal is anti-choice as it takes away the freedom of local government to run it's own affairs. The Progressive Conservative Party and Premier Ford ran on a platform "For the People". Well then leave the people alone. Let them decide for themselves how they pick their local councillors and mayor. Delete the portions of this bill that repeal the current Ranked Ballot provisions in the Municipal Act. Thank you for your time.