

Taylor, Laura

From: Legislative Assembly of Ontario
Sent: November 4, 2020 9:37 AM
To: Standing Committee on Justice Policy
Cc: Teng, Deborah
Subject: Webform submission: Submission of material 25076

Submitted on Wed, 11/04/2020 - 09:29

Application ID: 25076

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 submitting material as an individual

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Paste submission

We should not use Bill 218 to remove the rights of cities to run local elections the way they choose to do so. We should allow cities to act as grassroots sources of inspiration for other levels of government, where people get to voice their concerns and set an example for the rest of us as they investigate new forms of electing their

leaders and find out what works best. This isn't something that needs to be simplified for voters in the cities, it's something that needs to be left for the cities to decide.

For example, many London voters expressed that they preferred using ranked ballots when they did in 2018. And Toronto has spent many years investigating the use of ranked ballots, even delaying their use another 4 years to allow proper consultation with its residents in the context of the pandemic. It's clear that residents are excited about influencing the direction their local democracies go in and that the cities are demonstrating responsibility as they execute their residents' wishes.

Please, remove the part of Bill 218 removing the option of municipalities to use ranked ballots.