

Taylor, Laura

From: Legislative Assembly of Ontario
Sent: November 4, 2020 10:04 AM
To: Standing Committee on Justice Policy
Cc: Teng, Deborah
Subject: Webform submission: Submission of material 25116

Submitted on Wed, 11/04/2020 - 10:02

Application ID: 25116

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

Full name

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Email address

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Paste submission

I completely oppose the banning of ranked ballots in this bill. It seems painfully obvious that this issue has nothing to do with the rest of the bill and is just a way to sweep this issue under the rug without the proper public consultation it deserves.

Ranked ballot voting improves the democratic process by doing away with "strategic voting" practices. It encourages fresh candidates to run and all candidates to broaden their platforms to something a great majority

of voters can agree on; it helps us find common ground. And it's obviously of value to the Ontario Conservative Party, since it is the voting system they use to elect their own party leaders.

That this aggressive policy action against ranked ballots is coming only as Toronto takes the voting system into consideration raises concerns for me about whether this is really more about Premier Ford's past relationship with Toronto city council. It seems a shame to me that all the other municipalities in the province—like London, which has adopted ranked ballots, and Kingston, which is considering them—need suffer as a result of lingering resentment between our Premier and ONE Ontario city. In any case, this should be an issue for individual cities to decide for themselves, not for the province to decide for them.

I hope the Standing Committee will agree that the banning of ranked ballots is not an issue to be tacked onto a bill and pushed through without due public consultation.

Thank you.