

Twyla Melton

From: Kendal Shaber <kendal.shaber1@my.nd.edu.au>
Sent: Tuesday, April 6, 2021 5:19 PM
To: Twyla Melton

Dear Ms Melton,

I thought I would be able to testify regarding H223 however, I see it will be discussed in your committee tomorrow and I am on the road with unstable internet access. I have edited my testimony. Could you please include it with testimonies tomorrow? Many thanks.

Sincerely,

Kendal Shaber

ATTN: Senate State Affairs Secretary Twyla Melton at sstaf@senate.idaho.gov.

Chairman and Members of the Committee,

My name is Kendal Shaber and I am representing myself. I am speaking in opposition to H223.

The supposition of this bill is that people who collect ballots from voters at the voters' own request have nefarious intentions. As a member of a long-standing, nonpartisan voter education organization, over the years, I have registered thousands of people to vote and/or apply for absentee ballots (an annual process). I have also collected ballots on request from neighbors, people in nursing homes and retirement centers, and people with disabilities for deposit in ballot boxes, election offices, or mailboxes, whatever their request. What all these people had in common was their inability or difficulty in getting their ballots to the proper location because of illness, lack of transportation or mobility, and **lack of family members locally to help**. This bill seeks to criminalize assisting those voters in need.

Additionally, the bill doesn't include money for DNA testing or mailbox and ballot box surveillance, so enforcement is impossible. Maybe the sponsor assumes that just the threat of a felony charge will be enough to keep friends, church members, neighbors, and all who believe passionately in our Constitutional right to vote in line.

Please defend the right to vote without prejudice by voting against H223.

Thank you.