

Testimony in Support of HB1089

“Election Law – Registered Voter List Security and Electronic Signature 3 Requirements for Petitions”
House Ways and Means Committee
March 1, 2022

FAVORABLE

TO: Chair Atterbeary, Vice Chair Washington, and members of the Ways and Means Committee
FROM: Sharon Davlin

My name is Sharon Davlin. I am a resident of District 42A. I submit this testimony *in support of HB 1089*. This bill require the State Board of Elections to adopt procedures for the collection of electronic signatures on ballot petitions, and regulations for the secure storage and use of voter data and of the registered voter list.

This legislation should have been enacted years ago. Too many people are left out of the ballot petition process due to work or school or being house bound. As an 82 year old with a compromised immune system, I don't open the door to people I don't know. Nor do I go out to stores or malls or meeting places where petition signatures are gathered.

In the 21st century we have the technology to allow all of us to more easily participate in the democratic process, even if we work, have a disability, or need to attend to daily responsibilities that impose limits on our time and access. This bill will allow the collection of signatures in electronic form instead of with paper and ink. The internet has dramatically changed our lives in the ways we connect with each other and conduct business. It is time it is used to broaden how all our voices are heard as well.

I respectfully urge this committee to return a favorable report on HB 1089.

Thank you,
Sharon Davlin
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