State & Local Government Committee.

My name is Rae Portra, I live in District 23 and am writing in strong support of SB 2386.

In Section 1, I was troubled after looking through KNOWiNK's, the company North Dakota uses for electronic poll books, website and seeing so many vulnerabilities in the equipment that has taken over elections. Verified Voting has looked into every piece of electronic equipment used in our elections here in North Dakota. Electronic Poll Books are known election security hole and have received a vote of no confidence in many states. To secure the vote of every North Dakotan, we need a record of our elections, paper poll books are much, harder to manipulate, they can't be hacked and there is a record to look back at should the need arise.

In Section 2, I whole-heartedly agree that every qualified elector has a right to see every voter report and list. These are The People's elections and according to Article 14 of the ND Constitution it is a Right protected by the 1st Amendment.

I also like how Section 3 reiterates that a paper poll book shall be provided to each poll clerk and Section 4 simply lays out how to verify a voter and what to do if a name is not on the list. Section 5 adds more security by ensuring the poll books remain locked until polls open on Election Day. I was curious as to how that would work for early voting, but that is covered in Section 6. Finally, Section 7 covers our Right, as laid out in Article 14 of the ND Constitution, as electors, to have access to our canvassing reports.

Everyone says, we've got nothing to worry about, our elections are fine. Yet no one wants to show us any receipts and when we try to do FOIA requests we are ignored completely, denied access, told those records don't exist, or are charged exorbitant amounts of money. If we try to volunteer, we are told they have more than enough help and still close our local in-person polling place. I know of several people who didn't get to vote because our town didn't have a polling location on election day. In Williston, I stood in line for 2 hrs, an hour of which was outside in the wind and 10 degree temps. I have a bad foot and I was barely able to make it through the line. There were no hand rails for support, no benches to sit on for the elderly and voters with mobility issues, like myself who had terrible and painful edema for several days after.

SB 2386 is a step in the right direction. I urge a Do Pass vote on this bill to start giving The People our elections back.

Sincerely,

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Rae Portra