

Please vote DO NOT PASS on SB2178. This bill imposes further restrictions on election procedures by requiring persons voting in a primary election to choose a party and then receive a ballot for only that party. Further, it allows storage of the party affiliation identification and allows this information to be shared publicly. The ballot is supposed to be a SECRET BALLOT. Gathering, storing, and sharing this information violates that secrecy. It isn't hard to imagine a lot of people deciding they don't want their personal information shared and deciding simply not to vote. These reduced vote numbers mean elections would become even less representative of public sentiment than they are now, where one can only argue they are less representative because less than a majority of the eligible public votes, and primary elections already have smaller numbers of voters than general elections do. This is not an improvement in voting procedures, in making voting easier, in potentially enlarging the numbers of people who decide to vote, or in electing people who represent the interests and concerns of their constituents. This is an intrusion in people's lives, privacy, and right to vote using the secret ballot in elections. Please VOTE DO NOT PASS on SB2178.
Susan Dingle, District 35, Bismarck