

Members of the Senate State and Local Government Committee, my name is Vicki Voldal Rosenau; I live in Valley City.

I am speaking up today to oppose Senate Bill 2178. This proposal would wrongly, even dangerously, require voters to reveal their party preference in order to vote in Primary Elections. My many years of active participation in representative government tell me that forcing privacy-loving North Dakotans to publicly declare their personal party preference will produce one chief result: fewer citizens will vote in Primary Elections in North Dakota.

By removing privacy at the polls, this unnecessary change would scare some North Dakotans away from voting at all, because they would fear repercussions from revealing any personal party partiality. Others would be dissuaded from participating simply because the harmful requirement would render the voting process needlessly complicated and confusing.

Please preserve our secret ballot; please recommend "Do Not Pass" on Senate Bill 2178. Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully submitted: Vicki Voldal Rosenau, Valley City, ND (701) 490-4883