

Tricia Melillo

From: Owen Emberley <oemberley@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, January 9, 2022 1:27 PM
To: Tricia Melillo
Subject: SB 240 and 241 Opposition

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Hello Tricia,

Below, in quotations, is my testimony. I am also available to come give my testimony in person. However, when I signed up online, I was only given the option for remote testimony. I do not know if you are accepting in person testimony at the moment, but I am happy to deliver this testimony in person, if able.

"My name is Owen Emberley. I am from Concord, NH, and I am representing myself. Thank you for taking the time to read my testimony.

The proposed redistricting in SB 240 and 241 will be detrimental to our state. Both propositions greatly decrease the number of competitive races and create strong party-leaning districts. The ability to run and govern without any real competition is not only anti-democratic, but it also makes our representatives less accountable to us, the people.

These bills will also create more partisan politics and future legislative gridlock. We need to create a competitive, balanced system that will allow fair elections and promote a government that is representative of the people. New Hampshire is a purple state, and fair elections will create a balanced State Senate and Executive Council that will lead to more fruitful debate, compromise and just governance.

State Senators and Executive Councilors work for us, the people. We voters should be able to select our representatives, not the other way around. It is fundamentally unethical for our elected officials to drastically re-orient voting districts to serve their own purposes.

With great humility, I ask our State Senators to create fair voting maps that will promote competitive elections and allow the will of the people to be heard."

Thank you,

Owen Emberley