



Thursday, February 1, 2024, 3:30 PM

House Committee on Elections
Rep. Pat Proctor, Chair

Proponent Testimony: HB 2576 – Requiring the publication of signed statements of fair campaign practices and providing a cause of action for violations of such statements.

Chair Proctor and Members of the Committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to provide written proponent testimony on HB 2576.

As the bill states, “deliberate publication of false information by political interests to influence election outcomes misleads the public and undermines the integrity of our elections”.

Moreover, in a world where the free flow of factual information is vital, statements of fair campaign practices—and pledging not to use synthetic media against opposing candidates—serve as ethical guidelines that define the rules of engagement in political campaigning. Such commitments help to foster a political culture where the focus is on substantive issues rather than divisive rhetoric and personal attacks. It is imperative that our aspiring elected leaders value honesty, fairness, and respect in campaigning that strengthens the electorate’s faith in elections.

Transparency in government and truth in political advertising are essential to a healthy democratic process and equitable representation. Mainstream urges you to vote yes on HB 2576 and take a concrete step toward fostering truthful and meaningful political campaigning.

Respectfully,

Michael Poppa
Executive Director
Mainstream