



Romaine Robert Quinn

STATE SENATOR • 25TH SENATE DISTRICT

From: Senator Romaine Robert Quinn
To: Senate Committee on Shared Revenue, Elections and Consumer Protection
Re: **Testimony on Senate Bill 560**
Relating to: election observers and providing a penalty
Date: November 8, 2023

Thank you, fellow members of the committee for allowing me to testify on Senate Bill 560 today.

This bill provides election observers uniform and nondiscriminatory access to all stages of the election process. The bill changes the distance of observation area so that it is not more than three feet from the table where voters announce their name and address, and not more than three feet from the table where individuals are registered to vote. The current observation area is no less than three feet and no more than eight feet away from the tables.

The proposed distance in the bill allows the average person to readily observe all public aspects of the voting process. Additionally, I believe it is important to set a uniform standard to reduce confusion and conflict. This provides another way that we can provide certainty and confidence in our election process.

The amendment clarifies that the bill applies to observation at recounts and also designates that the penalty for violating this act applies only to election officials.

SB 560 will ensure that all parties will be afforded the opportunity to observe elections in a fair and productive manner.

Thank you for your time and consideration today. I ask for your support in passing Senate Bill 560.