

Passage of SB 90

Whereas, voter suppression is un-American. Free and fair elections are the pinnacle of our democracy and our democracy is now under fire. Even though Florida's 2020 election saw great voter participation and was one of the safest in our history, the Legislature felt it necessary to pass SB 90. This bill is an unnecessary encumbrance that the Florida Legislature believes its citizens must bear even though the election ran very smoothly and there was very little fraud in the 2020 election (see below). Historically, voting by mail is a trusted method of voting which is perfectly safe; and

Whereas, this unnecessary overhaul of state election laws was rushed through the Florida Legislature and the public was denied the chance to testify at a hearing before a vote was taken on SB 90. Republicans got plenty of time to talk but Democrats were restricted to 30 seconds each on what was arguably the most far-reaching bill of the session. Many believe this was a violation of the First Amendment Right to Freedom of Speech; and

Whereas, one case of voter fraud has been identified during the 2020 election cycle. Thus far, a Republican is the only person being prosecuted. Republicans in Florida won big in the 2020 election but in spite of that they felt it necessary to have a partisan crackdown on mail ballots and the use of drop boxes. The State Association of Elections Supervisors said the bill would make it harder for people to vote; and

Whereas, apparently, the goal of this legislation is not to make voting safer but rather to make voting more difficult for African Americans, Latinx and young people who are most negatively affected when voting rights are curtailed. "This year marks the 25th year of Republican control of both houses of the Legislature. The GOP secured a majority in the Senate in 1994 and the house in 1996. This is no way to mark that milestone. The Florida Legislature is broken and the only fix is at the ballot box, starting next year" per *The Sun Sentinel*.

Now, therefore be it, resolved that, The Palm Beach County Democratic Executive Committee calls on its members to put pressure on corporations that have a home base in Florida or have an outsized presence here by calling, writing and/or boycotting those businesses until they begin to put pressure on the Legislature to force them to rethink their position on voting by mail and help us save Florida's democracy.

Mindy Koch, Legislative Committee Chair; Ellen Baker, Vice Chair; Phil Levitt, Vice Chair; Amelia Rose; Maria Torres-Lopez; Allen Robbins; Charles Bantel; Cameron Stempel; Drew Martin; Ira Raab; Tricia Mischler; Theo Parsons; Joel Schlifer