

FISH HOEK VALLEY RATEPAYERS & RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

(Incorporating Fish Hoek, Clovelly and Sun Valley)

~~Central Circle, Fish Hoek 7975~~

Web: <https://www.fhvrra.org.za/>

Facebook: www.facebook.com/FHVRRRA/

Heritage Western Cape: Conservation Body

**TO: PORTFOLIO COMMITTEE ON HOME AFFAIRS – Mr Eddy Mathonsi –
elab@parliament.gov.za; emathonsi@parliament.gov.za**

SUBJECT: COMMENTS ON THE ELECTORAL LAWS AMENDMENT BILL [B22-2020]

DUE DATE: 6 NOVEMBER 2020

Thank you for extending the deadline for opportunity to comment.

Our concern with the insertion of Section 24A in Electoral Act #73 of 1998 is the potential lack of requisite control for ensuring that a voter may only cast their vote in one ward, district or provincial election per election.

The insertion of Section 38 (9) in Electoral Act #73 of 1998 and the amendment of Section 47 of the Local Government: Municipal Electoral Act #27 of 2000 whereby the “Commission may prescribe a different voting” method / procedure is completely unacceptable. Our concern is that giving a free hand to an unknown and unexplained method / procedure. As this “different voting method / procedure” could introduce an electronic voting system, we need to know the safeguards that have been put into place to avoid manipulation of the results. These risks must be made known to the public so that they can respond properly their concerns about a “different voting method / procedure”. Internal and external attacks on electronic voting systems are not unknown and are difficult to detect as opposed to the traditional voting systems. Traditional voting systems are more transparent because they generate a paper trail and can be observed at every stage. We don't need to expose South Africa as being a failed and corrupt state to the world.¹

That the Local Government: Municipal Electoral Act #27 of 2000 allows the voters' roll to not contain the voter's addresses is also unacceptable. A unique geocode of latitude and longitude coordinates can suffice to show in which ward, local, metropolitan or district municipality they are able to vote. The IEC must verify where the voter may vote.

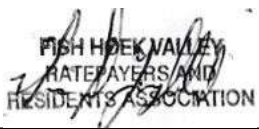
Summary

In conclusion, we request that:

- Section 24A in Electoral Act #73 of 1998 and Local Government: Municipal Electoral Act #27 of 2000 should require a unique geocode to replace address so that the IEC can properly control the voter to be able to vote in a specific ward, local, metropolitan or district municipality; and

¹ <https://irr.org.za/media/sa-must-urgently-oppose-a-seemingly-innocuous-bill-that-could-threaten-free-and-fair-elections-2013-irr>

- The removal of the ambiguous wording “the Commission may prescribe a different voting” method / procedure in the insertion of Section 38 (9) in Electoral Act #73 of 1998 and the amendment of Section 47 of the Local Government: Municipal Electoral Act #27 of 2000 until this method / procedure has been properly identified and explained to the public.

NAME & SURNAME	<i>Brian Youngblood, Chair: Fish Hoek Valley Residents and Ratepayers Association (FHVRRA)</i>
CONTACT NUMBER	<i>Cell: 084 3 99 99 33</i>
E-MAIL ADDRESS	bdyoungblood@gmail.com or FishHoekRRA@gmail.com
SIGNATURE	
DATE	4 November 2020