

Dear Andrew Boff AM,

Thank you very much for your recent correspondence on behalf of the London Assembly.

I agree that amendment NC1 to the Election Bill is wholly wrong. The amendment was added to the Bill at Committee stage by the Government with little opportunity for committee members, or the wider House of Commons, to consider and debate it. The then Shadow Minister for Young People & Democracy spoke against the proposal in Committee. The supplementary vote system has been used in every election for the Mayor of London since 1998. I believe this is a fairer system which ensures every vote is counted.

More widely, I believe proposals in this Bill will deprive Londoners of their right to vote. I am particularly concerned about the introduction of photo ID. Millions of people lack photo ID in this country, disproportionately elderly, low income, and Black, Asian and ethnic minority voters. I believe these plans should be dropped.

I have voted against the Elections Bill throughout its passage in Parliament and will continue to do so.

Yours sincerely,

Helen Hayes MP