

City of Rehoboth Beach

Stan Mills
Mayor

smills@cityofrehoboth.com



City Hall
229 Rehoboth Avenue
P.O. Box 1163
Rehoboth Beach, DE 19971
302-227-6181
www.cityofrehoboth.com

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Delaware State Legislators via
Delaware League of Local Governments

This urgent correspondence is to notify you that the City of Rehoboth Beach does not support H.B. 146 for the reasons listed below:

- The bill will impact our diligent city staff who are responsible for maintaining the city's voting registration list and have been doing so efficiently for over 25 years.
- The bill will force city staff to create two different voter registration lists that would be an administrative nightmare to compile and manage, one for residents and one for non-residents.
- The bill will create a tremendous amount of confusion for residents and non-resident property owners because of differing registration processes.
- The City of Rehoboth Beach zip code, 19971, encompasses approximately 13,095 potential voters, with only approximately 12% of these residing within the city limits. If H.B. 146 passes, it would be necessary for staff to cull through each of the names on the 13,095-list mentioned here to ascertain their residence status.
- The City of Rehoboth Beach Charter has definitive time schedules whereby city staff must notify the Board of Elections in preparation for the city-wide vote; these time frames are extremely tight and will become more challenging to meet.
- The State Board of Elections criteria for proof of residency when registering to vote is less stringent than city criteria and can inadvertently facilitate registration by persons not qualified to vote in a City of Rehoboth Beach municipal election.
- Enactment of H.B. 146 will negatively impact the current efficiency of our present system for furnishing election candidates with accurate, timely and frequently updated lists of registered voters.

For these reasons and others, the City of Rehoboth Beach cannot support H.B. 146.

Thank you for taking these comments under consideration.

Respectfully,

Stan Mills
Mayor
City of Rehoboth Beach
smills@cityofrehoboth.com
302-542-1909