

Dear Senate President Peter Courtney and Senate Committee,

Hello, my name is Zoe Taylor and I am writing in today in support of bill 249.

Given the aftermath of the 2020 presidential election, I think it is crucial that states update their ballot counting policies. I think it may be unclear to many people why the County Clerk waits until all mail in ballots are received to begin counting, and can cause confusion among voters. Delaying counting can delay election results for days, and I think the 2020 presidential election showcased why it is crucial that we determine election results as timely as possible. American citizens began to doubt our government and its ballot counting methods due to the delay, and I think ballots being counted as soon as they are received would help prevent distrust, and ease tensions between political parties. Counting mail in ballots as soon as they are received is the most timely and practical way to go about ballot counting. This is why I urge you to support SB 249. Thank you.