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VOTER ENGAGEMENT

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To: electionscommission@lacity.org

Bend the Arc: A Jewish Partnership for Justice has launched a campaign to restore the right to vote for all Americans. I am an activist with Bend the Arc and I want to support the right to vote because it is at the heart of the democracy of this country.

Nationally, we are working to restore the Voting Rights Act following the Shelby County Supreme Court decision to dismantle section 4 of the VRA of 1964. Regionally, we are working to supporting voting rights and voter access where possible. In Los Angeles, this commission has given us the chance to raise up the issue of voter turnout and accessibility in our city's elections. We are very enthusiastic about the reforms that could come out of this commission. As an organization, we are fully supportive of:

1. Changing the City's Municipal Election Dates to match up with State and Federal Elections. We believe this will help increase participation in our local elections drastically.
2. Early voting where possible – whether this is on the weekends or 5-10 days before, we are fully supportive. If weekend voting is possible on both Saturday and Sunday, this will alleviate religious concerns.

I hope my concerns resonate and will positively impact the June report. Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

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