

Subject: Formal Opposition to Proposed Rule on “Amplified Sound”

[08 NCAC 10C .0104: Conduct at Voting Sites](#): *This rule provides direction on where electioneering may occur at a voting site and how loud noise or sound amplification devices at a voting site are to be addressed.*

Dear Members of the North Carolina State Board of Elections,

I am a registered voter in [County] County and have been voting since [Year]. I care deeply about free and fair elections because [your personal reason].

I am writing to formally oppose the proposed rule change restricting amplified sound near polling locations. This rule threatens to eliminate some of the most effective voter mobilization traditions in North Carolina, traditions that exist because communities of color have had to fight for every inch of access to the ballot box.

Souls to the Polls, Party at the Polls, and Student March to the Polls have brought thousands of Black, brown, and young voters to sites across this state. In Durham, Greensboro, and Charlotte, Black churches have marched voters to early voting sites with music and collective energy. In Raleigh and Wilmington, community celebrations have made voting feel safe and welcoming for voters who have every reason to distrust a system that has historically excluded them. At NC A&T, Western Carolina University, Duke, and NC Central University, student marches have turned out young voters who might otherwise have stayed home.

These events lower barriers, build trust, and bring eligible voters to the polls who would not otherwise come.

This proposed rule does not exist in a vacuum. North Carolina has a well-documented history of voter suppression, from the Wilmington coup of 1898, to Jim Crow literacy tests, to a voter ID law the Fourth Circuit found was crafted with almost surgical precision to target Black voters. A rule that silences the events most effective at mobilizing Black, brown, and young voters fits squarely within that history.

Polling locations should be places where every eligible voter feels empowered to participate. Community mobilization events that use music, energy, and collective joy to get people to the polls strengthen democracy. I urge the Board to reject this proposed change and protect the right of communities to organize and mobilize voters without restriction.

Respectfully submitted,

[Your Name]

[Your Address]

[City, State, ZIP]

[NCSBE PORTAL: SUBMIT PUBLIC COMMENT HERE](#) 