

**From:** [McGinley, Tim](#)  
**To:** [Lawrence, Sharon](#)  
**Subject:** FW: [EXTERNAL]: Proposed Ballot Questions  
**Date:** Tuesday, January 26, 2021 5:17:36 PM

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**From:** Elaine Maddon Curry [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 26, 2021 1:09 PM  
**To:** Luzerne County Council Members <LCCM@luzernecounty.org>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL]: Proposed Ballot Questions

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I strongly disagree with the proposed ballot questions re: Luzerne County Charter Amendments

1. The election board was written in the charter to be as bipartisan as possible. . The Charter specifically states an elected official cannot serve on the election board until they are out of office for 4 years. To add 3 elected officials to the election board would politicize the process. Having elected officials on the election board will exert undue influence on this body and make it ripe for political interference
2. Why does county council need its own solicitor? In addition to cost, it has the potential to create conflict and encourage partisan politics. Griffith and Urban have stated, "it is a conflict for the offices of law to serve both the county administration and council, since the Chief Solicitor reports to the County Manager." But that suggests interpretation of legal matters are not objective and differ according to who asks for the interpretation? The Solicitor should be unbiased, neutral and not take sides in legal matters. The Charter designates the County Manager as being responsible for hiring the County Solicitor. It is both wasteful to hire an additional solicitor and it has the potential for interference for elected officials to engage in partisan politics.

Submitted by,  
Elaine Maddon Curry

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