



**Date of Testimony:** Thursday, February 6, 2024

**Bill Number:** HB 2571: Requiring that all advance voting ballots deposited in a remote ballot box be considered provisional ballots until verified by the county election office.

**Disposition:** Opponent; Written only Testimony

**From:** Cille King, Advocacy Chair, League of Women Voters Kansas

**To:** Chair Representative Proctor and Members of the House Committee on Elections

The League of Women Voters of Kansas ask you to Vote NO on HB 2571 as the bill would have all ballots delivered to a remote ballot box marked provisional. This bill treats ballots delivered to a drop box differently than those delivered to a postal delivery box. **This is unequal treatment for the same type of ballot.**

All mailed ballots require an application form with the voter's photo ID information and their signature. These applications are verified against the voter registration list in ELIVS. When the ballots are returned to the election office, they are verified again by the signature (K.S.A. 25-1124) on the envelope and that the ballot is the only one that the registered voter who has applied for a mailed ballot, has returned.

As provisional ballots are not counted until the county canvas, imposing a "Provisional" status on advanced mailed ballots that are deposited in drop boxes would increase the number of ballots counted at the end of the election period. Clay Barker, Kansas SOS's office, testified in this committee on 1/6/2024, that they estimate 70,000 ballots would be deposited in drop boxes in Kansas for the November 2024 presidential election. Mr. Barker noted that voters trust drop boxes, where ballots go directly to the election office, more than they do the U.S.P.S., where ballots go out of state for processing, to have their ballots arrive on time.

In lines Page 3, lines 30,31,32; should be added: *or at a polling site on election day.*

We ask you to vote NO on HB 2571 and allow the current secure system to verify advanced mailed ballots.

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League of Women Voters of Kansas

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