Approved	2-27-92	
	Date	190

MINUTES OF THE <b>House</b> COMMI	TTEE ON _Elections
The meeting was called to order by Repre	esentative Sherman Jones Chairperson
9:11 a.m./p.m. on February 19	
Represent except: Represent Represen	ntative Bishop (excused) ntative Parkinson (excused) ntative Stephens (excused) ntative Baker (excused) ntative Cates (excused)
Committee staff present:	tative tates (excused)

Arden Ensley, Revisor Pat Mah, Research Shirley Lee, Committee Secretary

Conferees appearing before the committee:

Elaine Wells Joe de la Torre, Secretary of State Office

Others attending: see attached list.

Chairman Jones opened the hearing for HB 2879 and HB 2880.

Representative Wells appeared before the Committee. She stated HB 2879 related to what happened in the election contest when absentee voters appeared to lose their right to have their votes counted because they had failed to sign the absentee ballot envelope. She urged the Committee to recommend HB 2879 for favorable passage (see attachment 1).

Chairman Jones opened the floor for questions and there were none.

Representative Wells testified that **HB 2880** allows voters who have a name change to vote after giving an affadavit stating the facts relevant to the change in their name. She encouraged the Committee to pass the bill favorably (see attachment 2).

Joe de la Torre, Secretary of State Office, appeared before the Committee. He stated the Secretary of State Office was in support of HB 2879 and HB 2880. He states HB 2880 under current law is more restrictive to women than to men, which may make it unconstitutional. He stated he hope that the bill could be implemented as soon as possible (see attachment 3).

Chairman Jones opened the floor for questions and the bill was discussed.

Chairman Jones closed the hearing and informed the Committee that final action would be taken on HB 2879 and HB 2880, and they would work on a campaign ethics bill.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

### GUEST LIST

NAME (PLEASE PRINT)	ADDRESS	COMPANY/ORGANIZATION	
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REPRESENTATIVES

COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS

MEMBER: ELECTIONS
INSURANCE
PENSIONS, INVESTMENTS AND
BENEFITS

#### TESTIMONY ON HB2879

Thank you, Mr. Chairman, for the opportunity to testify on HB2879.

This bill relates to what happened in the election contest when absentee voters appeared to lose their right to have their votes counted because they had failed to sign the Absentee Ballot envelope.

Out of ten or so voters who had not signed the envelopes five or so were at the court hearings to testify that those ballots were theirs (they had printed or typed a return address on the envelope).

This bill will help ensure that such voters will have their votes count by bringing to their attention that the decalaration must be completed and signed.

The other revision in this bill is on line 6 of page 2, which states that absentee ballots have to be received in the office of the county election office to be counted.

We had a situation where the ballot was placed in a drop box at the court house and was not discovered until the next day. This change will clarify where the ballot is to be received to be counted.

Again, thank you, and I urge the committee to recommend this bill for favorable passage.

House Election 2-19-92 Attachment 1



REPRESENTATIVE, FIFTY-NINTH DISTRICT
OSAGE AND NORTH LYON COUNTIES
R.R. 1, BOX 166
CARBONDALE, KANSAS 66414
(913) 665-7740



COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS

MEMBER: ELECTIONS
INSURANCE
PENSIONS, INVESTMENTS AND
BENEFITS

# HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

### TESTIMONY ON HB2880

Thank you, Mr. Chairman, for the opportunity to testify on HB2880.

A similiar bill as  ${\sf HB2880}$  passed out of this committee last year.

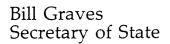
It simply allows voters who have a name change to vote after giving an affadavit stating the facts relevant to the change in their name.

In the election contest at least two voter's ballots were challenged because of a name change. One additional voter told me personally she was not even allowed to vote at the polls.

This bill will help ensure that there is no discrimination especially to women in voting when they have had a name change.

I encourage the committee to pass this pill favorably.

House Election 2-19-92 attached 2





2nd Floor, State Capitol Topeka, KS 66612-1594 (913) 296-2236

## STATE OF KANSAS

TESTIMONY OF JOSE DE LA TORRE HOUSE ELECTIONS COMMITTEE February 19, 1992 House Bill 2880

Thank you, Mr. Chairman and members of the committee, for the opportunity to appear before you today on behalf of Secretary of State Graves.

This bill will allow persons who have changed their names to vote at any election by completing an affidavit.

Under current law, a person may only vote if that person had changed names in the last 30 days prior to the election. Current law is obviously more restrictive to women than men, which may make it unconstitutional.

I strongly urge your approval of this bill for favorable passage. Thank you.

House Election 2-19-92 attachnet 3