Date

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATION AND ELECTIONS.

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Marvin Smith at 9:00 a.m. on February 23, 1993 in Room 521-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except: Representative Walker Hendrix

Representative Sheila Hochhauser (Excused)

Representative Ed McKechnie

Committee staff present: Carolyn Rampey, Legislative Research Department

Dennis Hodgins, Legislative Research Department

Arden Ensley, Revisor of Statutes Nancy Kippes, Committee Secretary

Conferees appearing before the committee:

Representative Dick Edlund Edward Powers Don Moler, League of Kansas Municipalities Mark Tallman, Kansas Association of School Boards Harold Riehm, Kansas Society of Association Executives Michael Woolf, Common Cause of Kansas Carol Williams, Kansas Commission on Governmental Standards & Conduct

Others attending: See attached list

Hearing on:

HB 2273 - recall of elected officials; local officers.

Representative Dick Edlund testified in support of HB 2273, pointing out that in some cases it is arithmetically impossible to recall.

Edward Powers gave testimony in support of <u>HB 2273</u>, explaining how it is arithmetically impossible to recall in some cases, specifically in Wyandotte County. He stated this bill would not change any of the difficult requirements now in place to obtain a recall (Attachment 1).

Mark Tallman, Kansas Association of School Boards, testified in opposition to HB 2273, and specifically in regards to school board members (Attachment 2). Because of the size of school districts, in some districts as few as 23 voters could force a recall election.

Don Moler, League of Kansas Municipalities, appeared in opposition to HB 2273, stating he did not understand the statistical impossibility of having a recall anywhere. He reminded the committee there is an ouster provision as well as the recall and that we need to continue to attract quality individuals to serve Kansans in cities and counties (Attachment 3).

HB 2451 - elections; registration of voters by persons employed in governmental agencies providing services to persons with disabilities.

Joe de la Torre, Secretary of State's Office, provided testimony in support of HB 2451, advising that this process will become mandatory once HR 2 is signed by the President.

CONTINUATION SHEET

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATION AND ELECTIONS, Room 521-S Statehouse, at 9:00 a.m. on February 23, 1993.

HB 2495 - lobbyists; reporting and contributions.

Michael Woolf, Common Cause of Kansas, testified in support of <u>HB 2495</u>, stating his organization believes it is inappropriate for campaign money to exchange hands when the legislature is deciding issues that can have a huge financial impact on potential contributors (<u>Attachment 4</u>).

Harold Riehm, Kansas Society of Association Executives, appeared in support of <u>HB 2495</u>, detailing the three parts of the bill and pointing out there is now the potential for abuse and this bill would help eliminate that potential (<u>Attachment 5</u>).

Carol Williams, Kansas Commission on Governmental Standards and Conduct, provided information on the section of <u>HB 2495</u> regarding filing of reports by lobbying organizations (<u>Attachment 6</u>). She stated half of the organizations never spend money and this bill would allow them to file an affidavit and they would not have to file periodic reports, which in turn would save her office considerable time.

Action on:

HB 2145 - community correction's board of repeal of statutes.

Representative Haulmark moved to pass HB 2145 out of committee favorably. Representative Bradley seconded. Motion carried.

HB 2322 - elections; requiring names of write-in candidates to be handwritten.

A balloon with amendment to add wording to allow someone to assist disabled with the handwriting of the write-in name and also wordage that if a write-in vote is not handwritten it will not invalidate the vote for any other office on the ballot (<u>Attachment 7</u>) was handed out.

Representative Wells moved adoption of the balloon. Representative Haulmark seconded. Motion carried.

Representative Wells made a motion to pass HB 2322 favorably from committee. Representative Haulmark seconded. Motion carried.

Representative Gilbert moved approval of the minutes for February 22, 1993 as submitted. Representative O'Connor seconded. Motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:50 am. The next meeting is scheduled for February 24, 1993.

GUEST LIST

COMMITTEE: Nove de de la la committée Lécture DATE: 2-23-95 NAME (PLEASE PRINT) ADDRESS' COMPANY/ORGANIZATION Common Cause Columbus ETIPIRE DISTRICT BLEC

Statement of Edward H. Powers
Governmental Organizations Committee
February 23, 1993, 9 A.M.
Re: H.B. 2273

H.B. 2273 Should be Passed As Written

Members of the Committee:

H.B. 2273 changes the number of signatures required to require a Recall Election from 40% to 15% of the total vote in the last election.

WHY THIS BILL SHOULD BE PASSED:

- 1. 40% is the highest Recall Petition requirement I have researched anywhere in the United States.
- 2. Over 30 States require only 10% to 20% for Recall.
- 3. In some Kansas Cities, especially Kansas City, 40% is mathematically impossible to achieve!
- 4. A successful Recall Petition does NOT remove the elected official...it ONLY requires an election. The purpose of Recall is to give ALL voters the chance to reconsider the questioned actions of a public official.

2-23-93 Dry Drg. & Elections Attrakment Page 2
Statement of Edward H. Powers
February 23, 1993
Governmental Organizations Committee
Re: H.B. 2273

- 5. K.S.A. 25-4325 (Recall Procedure) requires SIX STEPS before a Recall Petition regardless of percentage is valid. These requirements are Conservative, Respect the Democratic Process AND SHOULD NOT BE CHANGED.
- 6. BUT: a legitimate, organized dissenting minority should have the practical, realistic, LEGAL right to ASK THE MAJORITY whether an official should remain in office. That is the historical, traditional purpose of Recall.
- 7. K.S.A. 25-4320 requires a 200 word statement of the reasons for the Recall. The minority must state their case... and he persuasive! Without honest public support, Recall petitions will not be successful!
- 8. There is a growing gap between City and County officials and the electorate. Local government is all the government most people care about!

People have the Right To a Second Thought!



1420 S.W. Arrowhead Rd, Topeka, Kansas 66604 913-273-3600

Testimony on H.B. 2273 before the House Committee on Governmental Organization and Elections

by

Mark Tallman, Director of Governmental Relations Kansas Association of School Boards

February 23, 1993

Mr. Chairman, Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to appear today. KASB opposes a reduction in the number of signatures required for the recall of local officials. We believe that once the majority of voters has elected an individual to office, we should be very cautious about allowing a small minority to seek to undo that result.

A recall election is expensive, time-consuming and distracting from the official duties of a public body. We see no reason to allow just 15% of registered voters to subject the elected official, the rest of the board, and the public of the local unit to these circumstances.

The median size of school districts in Kansas is 587 pupils. Assume this means there are about 1,500 registered voters in that district.

Assume further that the district is divided into three board member districts of 500 voters. If 30% of those voters vote, that means 150 votes would be cast in an election. Under this bill, just 23 voters could force a recall election.

2-23-93 House Gorit, Org. + Elections Attachmento 2 Remember, that is for the median size district. Half of the districts in the state are smaller. In some cases, angering a single family might be enough to force a recall.

We are not aware of any reason to allow a much lower number of individuals to require a recall election.

Thank you for your consideration.

#3

THE LEAG E
OF KANSAS
MUNICIPALITIES

Municipal Legislative Testimony

AN INSTRUMENTALITY OF KANSAS CITIES 112 W. 7TH TOPEKA, KS 66603 (913) 354-9565 FAX (913) 354-4186

TO:

House Committee on Governmental Organization and Elections

FROM:

Don Moler, Senior Legal Counsel

RE:

HB 2273

DATE:

February 23, 1993

I appreciate the opportunity to appear today to comment on HB 2273. Specifically the League opposes the amendment of K.S.A. 1992 Supp. 25-4325 to allow a recall election of any local elected official with a mere 15% of the votes cast at the prior election for that position. Currently the law requires a much more significant number of electors to sign the petition (40% voting in the prior election for the position) which is as is should be given the significance of the vote in question. Ultimately, we will be subjecting local elected officials to a virtual trial by fire and it is the prediction of the League that should the reduction in the number of required signatures on a recall petition become law, we will see a significant increase in the number of recall elections of local elected officials in Kansas. This will be the direct result of a loosening of requirements to make it easy to subject a local elected official to a recall petition and election.

The League strongly urges you to give careful thought to your direction on this issue. Local governments desperately need stability in their leadership and the ability to continue to attract quality individuals to serve the Kansans who live in our cities and counties. No changes should be undertaken which have not been completely discussed and all possible ramification determined before the modification of this law takes place.

Thank you for allowing our comments on this legislation.

2-23-93 House Gort. Org. & Elections Atlachmenter 3 701 Jackson, Room B-6 • Topeka, Kansas 66603 • (913) 235-3022

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HOUSE BILL 2495 HOUSE GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATION AND ELECTIONS

February 23, 1993

Thank you Mr. Chairman, members of the Committee for allowing me to testify this morning in support of House Bill 2495.

In 1990, Common Cause supported a campaign finance reform package which passed the legislature and included a prohibition against lobbyists contributing to legislators or to legislative candidates during the session.

Time has shown that the prohibition can easily be avoided by having the lobbyist's employer make the contribution and by allowing PACs, leadership PACs and political parties to solicit contributions during the session. Section 3(b) of HB 2495 closes that loophole.

Common Cause believes that it is inappropriate for campaign money to be exchanging hands when the legislature is deciding upon issues that can have a huge financial impact on potential contributors. It creates a public appearance of impropriety when legislators accept money from lobbying groups and then vote on issues that affect that special interest. And when lobbing groups are solicited, it puts a tremendous amount of pressure on them to give--how can they say no when you are controlling legislation that they see as vital.

Mr. Chairman, we ask that you report HB 2495 favorable for passage, and I would be happy to answer any questions that you may have.

2-23-93 Nouse Gov't Org. & Elections Attachment 4



FEBRUARY 23, 1993 TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HB 2495

To: Chairman Smith and Members, House Committee on Government Organization & Elections

From: Harold Riehm, Chairman, Government Affairs Committee, Kansas Society of Association Executives (KSAE)

Thank you for this opportunity to testify in support of HB 2495. I appear on behalf of members of KSAE. We appreciate your indulgance of our very late request for the introduction of this Bill and the Chairman working in into the Committee's busy schedule.

HB 2495 amends existing Kansas law regulating lobbying and lobbyists, as follows:

(1) ADDITIONAL LOBBYIST REGISTRATION INFORMATION REQUIRED

This would require a lobbyist to provide additional information at the time of registration so as there would be no question as to whom was employing the lobbyist, both by identifying the group as well as a contact person's name and address. We request the change so at any time legislators, associations, their lobbyists and the public can determine by whom a lobbyist is employed and compensated.

(2) EASING REPORTING REQUIREMENTS FOR LOBBYISTS WHO RARELY OR NEVER SPEND A REPORTABLE AMOUNT IN A REPORTING PERIOD.

This would permit lobbyists who rarely or never spend a reportable amount, to file one affidavit so indicating. They would then not have to file periodic reports during the year unless they did spend a reportable amount in a reporting period. This would save lobbyists from having to file, and the Commission from having to process, hundreds of reports each year.

(3) PROHIBITING LOBBYISTS FROM MAKING A CONTRIBUTION TO ANY POLITICAL COMMITTEE OR PARTY COMMITTEE DURING THE STATE TIME PERIOD OF JANUARY 1 THROUGH MAY 15 OF EACH YEAR.

KSAE wants to emphasize that we are not making <u>any</u> suggestion that any legislator has equated the purchase of tickets or solicatation of support on behalf of a legislative party or designated committee, to his or her vote on any business pending in this Legislature. We are stating that we think the potential for misunderstanding and misinterpretation is present. We think it legitimate to ask if we prohibit solication of contributions to individual legislator campaign or election committees, then why we should not also prohibit lobbyists from contributing to those committees stated in the language requested, in the stated time period.

Some association PACs have adopted, and others are considering, limiting their PAC contributions only to individual candidate committees or campaigns. It should also be noted that this requested language does not eliminate such events as the Land of Blahs event, or others for which the proceeds are donated to a charity, nor does it preclude social events, receptions, organized by ad hoc groups of persons for which no proceeds accrue to the benefit of one of the stated committees.

Thank you for this opportunity to present our views. I and other KSAE members will stand for questions. 2-23-93

KANSAS SOCIETY OF ASSOCIATION EXECUTIVES

House Hout Org + Elections Attachment 5



109 West 9th Stres. Suite 504 Topeka, Kansas 66612 (913) 296-4219

KANSAS COMMISSION ON GOVERNMENTAL STANDARDS AND CONDUCT

Testimony before House Governmental Organization and Elections
on House Bill 2495

By Carol Williams, Kansas Commission on Governmental Standards & Conduct

I am appearing before you this morning as neither a proponent nor an opponent to House Bill 2495. This bill amends three lobbying provisions found in K.S.A. 46-215 et seq. I stand before you this morning to provide information as to how, administratively, the Commission handles the lobbying reports and to provide some statistical information concerning lobbyists, their registration and reporting. I will confine my remarks to the amendment in the bill suggested on lines 42-43 of page 2 and 1-7 on page 3.

Prior to July 1, 1991, a lobbyist filed a monthly lobbyist employment and expenditures report only when he or she expended more than \$100 in reportable lobbying expenditures in a calendar month. The Commission had no way of knowing each month how many lobbyists should file a report, since it had no way of knowing when a lobbyist met the \$100 threshold figure. Since July 1, 1991, lobbyists have been required to file a lobbyist employment and expenditures report, whether or not they have expended more than \$100 in a reporting period. Rather than monthly, reports are now filed six times throughout the year.

In calendar year 1992, 627 lobbyists registered on behalf of 1002 organizations. So far this year, 555 lobbyists have registered to represent 882 organizations. Commission staff anticipates that one-half of those registering to lobby will not expend more than \$100 in any of the six reporting periods. Organizations like the Kansas Association for the Visually Impaired, the Kansas Associated Garden Clubs, the Kansas Association of Christian Schools, Kansas Advocacy and Protective Services, as well as many individuals who register on behalf of themselves as concerned citizens do not traditionally spend more than \$100 in any reporting period during a calendar year. The amendatory language found on

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line 42-43 of page 2 and lines 1-7 on page 3 would permit a lobbyist who does not expect to expend more than \$100 in any reporting period to file an affidavit of intent. Any lobbyist filing such affidavit would not be required to file the six reports due throughout the calendar year. Those lobbyists who have any function or other lobbying expenditures costing more than \$100 in any reporting period will not qualify to file the affidavit. These lobbyists will be required to file all six reports.

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HOUSE BILL No. 2322

By Representatives E. Wells and Freeborn

2-5

AN ACT relating to elections; concerning write-in ballots; amending K.S.A. 25-213a, 25-2021, 25-2116, 25-2903 and 71-1415 and K.S.A. 1992 Supp. 25-213, 25-612, 25-616, 25-617, 25-618 and 25-3002 and repealing the existing sections.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Kansas:

Section 1. K.S.A. 1992 Supp. 25-213 is hereby amended to read as follows: 25-213. At all national and state primary elections, the national and state offices as specified for each in this section shall be printed upon the official primary election ballot for national and state offices and the county and township offices as specified for each in this section shall be printed upon the official primary election ballot for county and township offices. The official primary election ballots shall have the following heading:

OFFICIAL PRIMARY ELECTION BALLOT

Party

To vote for a person whose name is printed on the ballet make a cross or check mark in the square at the right left of the person's name. To vote for a person whose name is not printed on the ballot, write the person's name in the blank space, if any is provided, and make a cross or check mark in the square to the right left. Names of condidates for which a write-in cote is cast shall be in the handwriting of the cologs

The words national and state or the words county and township

shall appear on the line preceding the part of the form shown above. The form shown shall be followed by the names of the persons for whom nomination petitions or declarations have been filed according to law for political parties having primary elections, and for the national and state offices in the following order: United States senator, United States representative from _____ district, governor and lieutenant governor, secretary of state, attorney general. state treasurer, commissioner of insurance, senator _____ district, representative ____ district, district judge _ district, district magistrate judge _____ district, district attorney judicial district, and member state board of education district. For county and township offices the form shall be followed by the names of persons for whom nomination petitions

House Lou's Org. + Election 2-23-93

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or declarations have been filed according to law for political parties having primary elections in the following order: commissioner ______ district, county clerk, treasurer, register of deeds, county attorney, sheriff, surveyor, township trustee, township treasurer, township clerk. When any office is not to be elected, it shall be omitted from the ballot. Other offices to be elected but not listed, shall be inserted in the proper places. For each office there shall be a statement of the number to vote for.

To the right left of each name there shall be printed a square. Official primary election ballots may be printed in one or more columns. The names certified by the secretary of state or county election officer shall be printed on official primary election ballots and no others. In case there are no nomination petitions or declarations on file for any particular office, the title to the office shall be printed on the ballot followed by a blank line with a square, and such title, followed by a blank line, may be printed in the list of candidates published in the official paper. No blank line shall be printed following any office where there are nomination petitions or declarations on file for the office except following the offices of precinct committeeman and precinct committeewoman. Except as otherwise provided in this section, no person's name shall be printed more than once on either the official primary election ballot for national and state offices or the official primary election ballot for county and township offices. No name that is printed on the official primary election ballot as a candidate of a political party shall be printed or written in as a candidate for any office on the official primary election ballot of any other political party. If a person is a candidate for the unexpired term for an office, the person's name may be printed on the same ballot as a candidate for the next regular term for such office. The name of any candidate on the ballot may be printed on the same ballot as such candidate and also as a candidate for precinct committeeman or committeewoman. No name that is printed on the official primary election ballot for national and state offices shall be printed or written in elsewhere on such ballot or on the official primary election ballot for county and township offices except for precinct committeeman or committeewoman. No name that is printed on the official primary election ballot for county and township offices shall be printed or written in on the official primary election ballot for national and state offices or elsewhere on such county and township ballot except for precinct committeeman or committeewoman.

No person shall be elected to the office of precinct committeeman or precinct committeewoman where no nomination petitions or dec-

4-3

larations have been filed, unless the person receives at least five write-in votes. As a result of a primary election, no person shall receive the nomination and no person's name shall be printed on the official general election ballot when no nomination petitions or declarations were filed, unless the person receives votes equal in number to not less than 5% of the total number of registered voters of the party in the state, county or district in which the office is sought, except that a candidate for township office may receive the nomination and have such person's name printed on the ballot where no nomination petitions or declarations have been filed if such candidate receives three or more write-in votes. No such person shall be required to obtain more than 5,000 votes.

Sec. 2. K.S.A. 25-213a is hereby amended to read as follows: 25-213a. Notwithstanding any provision of K.S.A. 25-213 and amendments thereto, there shall be printed upon the official primary election ballots the following heading (in lieu of the heading otherwise provided by law) when the governor and lieutenant governor are to be nominated:

OFFICIAL PRIMARY ELECTION BALLOT

_____ Part

"To vote for persons for governor and lieutenant governor whose names are printed on the ballot make a cross or check mark in the square to the right left of the names of the persons running together for such offices. To vote for persons for governor and lieutenant governor whose names are not printed on the ballot, write such persons names in the blank space provided for the purpose, if any is provided, and make a cross or check mark in the square to the left of the names of the persons running together for such offices.

"To vote for a person (except governor and lieutenant governor) whose name is printed on the ballot make a cross or check mark in the square to the right left of the name of the person for whom you desire to vote. To vote for a person whose name is not printed on the ballot, write his or her such person's name in the blank space provided for the purpose, if any is provided, and make a cross or check mark in the square to the right left. Names of candidates for which a write-in vote is cast shall be in the handwriting of the votes."

After the names of each office, there shall be a statement of the number of candidates to vote for, for the particular office, and for one pair of governor and lieutenant governor candidates running together. When the governor, lieutenant governor, secretary of state and attorney general are not to be nominated, no reference to those offices shall appear on the ballot.

To the right left of governor and lieutenant governor running together, one square shall be printed to the right left of the names of each pair running together. No blank lines shall be printed

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following the offices of governor and lieutenant governor.

Sec. 3. K.S.A. 1992 Supp. 25-612 is hereby amended to read as follows: 25-612. The arrangement of the names certified under K.S.A. 25-610, and amendments thereto, by the secretary of state shall govern the county election officer in arranging the ballot, and the county election officer in preparing the ballot for the county shall follow the same arrangements as provided in K.S.A. 25-610 and 25-611, and amendments thereto, for the secretary of state, for the candidates nominated for county offices, using the township and precincts of the county in making his such division.

Blank spaces shall be left at the end of the list of candidates for each different office equal to the number to be elected thereto, in which the voter may insert write the name of any person not printed on the ballot for whom the voter desires to vote for such office.

Sec. 4. K.S.A. 1992 Supp. 25-616 is hereby amended to read as follows: 25-616. The secretary of state shall prescribe the ballot format but the national offices part of the official general ballot for national and state offices shall be substantially in the form shown in this section and the state offices part of such ballot shall be substantially in the form shown in K.S.A. 25-617, and amendments thereto.

STATE OF KANSAS

OFFICIAL GENERAL BALLOT

National and State Offices

County of _____

November ______ 19____

NATIONAL OFFICES

To vote for presidential electors for candidates for president and vice-president make a cross or check mark in the square at the left of the names of the candidates. To vote for presidential electors to be selected by candidates for president and vice-president whose names are not printed on the ballot, write the persons' names in the appropriate blank spaces and make a cross or check mark in the square at the left of the names of the candidates. Names of candidates for which a write-in vote is cast shall be in the handwriting of the votest.

FOR PRESIDENTIAL ELECTORS FOR PRESIDENT AND VICE-PRESIDENT
JONESTERN AND DOE
FOR PRESIDENTIAL ELECTORS FOR PRESIDENT AND VICE-PRESIDENT
ROEHEAD AND RICHARDBY Democra
FOR PRESIDENTIAL ELECTORS FOR PRESIDENT AND VICE-PRESIDENT
JANEBRAND AND JOHNBERG Independent

Nominations

GOVERNOR Vote for One Pair

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☐ FOR PRESIDENTIAL ELECTORS I	
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FOR UNITED STATES SENATOR	
Vote for One	
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ROBERTA SMITH, Salina	Democra
EOD INITED CTATES DEDDESCRIPTION	707
FOR UNITED STATES REPRESENTAT DISTRICT	IVE
Vote for One	
ELMER O'BRIEN, Wichita	Democra
WM.T. MILLER, Maple City	Republica
ballot.	official general ballot for nationa
STATE (OFFICES
To vote for the pair of candidates, mal	ke a cross or check mark in the square a
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is cast shall be in the handwriting of the	voley.
FOR GOVERNOR AND LIEUTENANT	

, or if the voter is sick, physically disabled or illiterate and has received assistance in marking the ballot, in the handwriting of the person who has assisted such voter in marking the ballot

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and Bob Smith, Arkansas City			
Carol Johnson, Mahaska			
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and			
To such face a second of			
To vote for a person, make a cross or check mark in the so person's name. To vote for a person whose name is not printed the person's name in the blank space and make a cross or che to the left. Names of candidates for which a write-in vote is handwriting of the votes.	ed on the ballot, write		
FOR SECRETARY OF STATE			
Vote for One			
☐ ELIZABETH JUANITA MOORE, Zoomer	Republican		
RUSSEL ADAM, Topeka	Democrat		
☐ JOAN SAYLOR, Goodland	Prohibition		
☐ CHARLES (CHUCK) BROWNING, Kansas City	Independent		
	Nomination		
POP ATTORNEY COLUMN			
FOR ATTORNEY CENERAL			
Vote for One			
(and continuing in like manner for any other o	fficers		
elected from the state as a whole)			
FOR STATE SENATOR			
DISTRICT			
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FOR STATE REPRESENTATIVE			
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FOR DISTRICT JUDGE			
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When any office is not to be elected, it shall be omitted from the ballot.

When a voting machine does not provide sufficient space to accommodate the full names of the candidates for governor and lieutenant governor, only the surname of such candidates shall be required to be printed on the ballot label unless surnames of one or more of the candidates are the same.

Sec. 6. K.S.A. 1992 Supp. 25-618 is hereby amended to read as follows: 25-618. The official general ballot for county and township offices may be separate from the official general ballot for national and state offices or may be combined with the official general ballot provided for in K.S.A. 25-601 and amendments thereto. The secretary of state shall prescribe the ballot format but the ballot shall

STATE OF KANSAS OFFICIAL GENERAL BALLOT County and Township) offices County of	1	611 and amondments at
OFFICIAL GENERAL BALLOT County and Township Offices County of	2	ori, and amendments thereto.
County of City (or Township) of		
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election in each such member district and, if there are more than two (2) qualified candidates for the at-large member position, the county election officer shall call, and there shall be held, a primary

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election in such school district. The names of the two (2) candidates receiving the greatest number of votes for any member position at the primary election shall appear on the ballots in the general election.

- (b) In school districts having the election at large method, if there are more than two (2) times the number of candidates as there are board members to be elected, the county election officer shall call, and there shall be held, a primary election. The names of twice the number of candidates as there are board members to be elected who received the greatest number of votes at the primary election shall appear on the ballots in the general election.
- (c) If a member is to be elected to fill an unexpired term the rules in this section shall be modified consistent with the provisions of this subsection. If there are more than two (2) candidates for such unexpired term, the county election officer shall call and there shall be held, a primary election. The names of the two (2) candidates for such unexpired term receiving the greatest number of votes shall appear on the ballots in the general election.
- (d) No ballot in a primary school election shall have either names or write-in blanks for any board member position unless more than two (2) candidates have filed for such position.
- (e) On the ballots in general school elections, blank lines for the name of write-in candidates shall be printed at the end of the list of candidates for each different office equal to the number to be elected thereto. The purpose of such blank lines shall be to permit the voter to insert write the name of any person not printed on the ballot for whom such voter desires to vote for such office. Names of candidates for which a write-in vote is cast shall be in the handwriting of the voter. No lines for write-in candidates shall appear on primary school election ballots.
- Sec. 8. K.S.A. 25-2116 is hereby amended to read as follows: 25-2116. (a) No blank lines for write-in candidates shall appear on primary city election ballots.
- (b) On the ballots in general city elections, blank lines for the name of write-in candidates shall be printed at the end of the list of candidates for each different office equal to the number to be elected thereto. The purpose of such blank lines shall be to permit the voter to insert write the name of any person not printed on the ballot for whom he desires to vote for such office. Names of candidates for which a write-in vote is cast shall be in the handwriting of the voters.
- Sec. 9. K.S.A. 25-2903 is hereby amended to read as follows: 25-2903. Except as otherwise provided by law, if a voter desires to

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vote for a person whose name is not on the ballot, the voter shall write the name of such person in the blank space, if any is provided, under the appropriate title of the office. Names of candidates for which a write-in vote is cast shall be in the handwriting of the voter. Failure to make a cross or check mark in the square to the right of such name shall not invalidate that portion of the ballot unless it is impossible to determine the voter's intention. If no blank space is provided for writing in the name of a person whose name is not on the ballot, voters may not vote for any person whose name is not on the ballot.

Sec. 10. K.S.A. 71-1415 is hereby amended to read as follows: 71-1415. (a) In any college district having a district method and in which there are more than two candidates for a member position, the election officer shall call, and there shall be held, a primary election. The names of the two candidates receiving the greatest number of votes for any member position shall appear on the ballots in the general election.

(b) In any college district having the election-at-large method and in which there are more than two times the number of candidates as there are trustees to be elected, the election officer shall call, and there shall be held, a primary election. The names of twice the number of candidates as there are trustees to be elected who receive the greatest number of votes in the primary shall appear on the ballots in the general election.

(c) In the general election, there shall appear on the ballots a line appropriate for write-in candidates. No lines for write-in candidates shall appear on the primary election ballots. Names of candidates for which a write-in vote is cast shall be in the handwriting of the vote.

Sec. 11. K.S.A. 1992 Supp. 25-3002 is hereby amended to read as follows: 25-3002. (a) The rules prescribed in this section shall apply to:

(1) The original canvass by election boards-;

- (2) intermediate and final canvasses by county boards of canvassers;
 - (3) final canvass by the state board of canvassers-;
 - (4) all election contests-; and
- (5) all other officers canvassing or having a part in the canvass of any election.
 - (b) Rules for canvassers:
- (1) No ballot, or any portion thereof, shall be invalidated by any technical error unless it is impossible to determine the voter's intention. The vote for a write-in candidate shall be counted even

, or if the voter is sick, physically disabled or illiterate and has received assistance in marking the ballot, in the handwriting of the person who has assisted such voter in marking the ballot

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though the last name is misspelled or the initial letters of the given name are transposed or omitted in part or altogether if the intention of the voter is apparent. Determination of the voter's intention shall rest in the discretion of the board canvassing in the case of a canvass and in the election court in the case of an election contest and shall be determined upon the basis of a preponderance of the evidence presented.

- (2) The occurrences listed in this subpart (2) shall not invalidate the whole ballot but shall invalidate that portion, and that portion only, in which the occurrence appears. The votes on such portion of the ballot shall not be counted for any candidate listed or written in such portion, but the remainder of the votes in other portions of the ballot shall be counted. The occurrences to which this subpart (2) shall apply are:
- (A) Whenever a voting mark shall be made in the square at the left of the name of more than one candidate for the same office, except when the ballot instructs that more than one candidate is to be voted.
- (B) Whenever a voting mark is placed in the square at the left of a space where no candidate is listed.
- (c) A write-in vote for those candidates for the offices of governor and lieutenant governor shall not be counted unless the pair of candidates have filed an affidavit of candidacy pursuant to K.S.A. 25-305 and amendments thereto, and:
 - (1) Both candidates' names are written on the ballot; or
- (2) only the name of the candidate for governor is written on the ballot.
- (d) A write-in vote for those candidates for the offices of president and vice-president shall not be counted unless the pair of candidates have filed an affidavit of candidacy pursuant to K.S.A. 25-305 and amendments thereto, and:
 - (1) Both candidates' names are written on the ballot; or
- (2) only the name of the candidate for president is written on the ballot.
- (e) A write-in vote for any candidate shall not be counted unless the name of the candidate is in the handwriting of the voter and appears on the line provided for such purpose.
- Sec. 12. K.S.A. 25-213a, 25-2021, 25-2116, 25-2903 and 71-1415 and K.S.A. 1992 Supp. 25-213, 25-612, 25-616, 25-617, 25-618 and 25-3002 are hereby repealed.
- Sec. 13. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its publication in the statute book.

, or if the voter is sick, physically disabled or illiterate and has received assistance in marking the ballot, in the handwriting of the person who has assisted such voter in marking the ballot

A write-in vote for any one office which is not handwritten as required by this act shall not invalidate the vote for any other office on such ballot.