

## ***Bonita Gooch***

1301 N. Cleveland  
Wichita, KS 67214

Dear Vice Chair Rep. Paul Waggoner,

I am writing to you in opposition to HB2056 abolishing the 3-day grace period for ballots arriving by mail, even though those ballots have been duly cast by eligible Kansans on or before election day.

As a business owner who regularly uses the U.S. mail for delivery of products and invoices I know that mail sent on one day to different locations with a same zip code, and even to the same location, often don't arrive at the same time.

We have customers call saying they haven't received their product, when their neighbor has. All we can tell them is that we mail them all at the same time and after that, it's out of our control. Delivery of our product, the same as it is with individual ballots, is totally at the mercy of the USPS. One-day delivery for one ballot, might be two or three day for others.

That's why it is important to protect the votes of individuals who mail them legitimately on or even before election day by allowing extra days for their ballot to be delivered through the U.S. Mail.

This isn't just a matter of mailing your ballot earlier, ballots mailed three or four days in advance of election day may not arrive before election day.

Your proposal leaves even well-planned voters (those who mail their ballot days before the election) guessing whether their vote will arrive on time.

According to the Kansas Secretary of State, if these proposed restrictions had been in place during the 2020 election more than 32,000 ballots from eligible Kansas citizens would have been thrown out.

Please don't disenfranchise 32,000 voters by putting their vote at the mercy of the USPS with no option that protects them.

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