

**March 9, 2023**

**Testimony to the House Elections Committee**

**NAME:** Linda Sanchez

**TITLE:** Kansas Citizen

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**BILL NUMBER:** SB 209, requiring mail ballots by 7 pm Election Day

**PROPONENT, OPPONENT, or NEUTRAL:** Opponent

**ORAL or WRITTEN ONLY TESTIMONY:** written

Dear Chair & members of the committee,

I am writing to voice my opposition to bill SB 209 for the following reasons:

- Current mail delays have gotten worse since the legislature enacted the three day grace period in 2017.
- Many more voters will be impacted if they are forced to use the mail, as the Senate just voted to remove ballot drop boxes.
- The bill that added these three days in 2017, passed unanimously in the Senate and with only one no vote in the House. It made sense then when mail processing centers closed and it makes even more sense now when we are seeing an increase in mail delays.
- In Shawnee County, 217 (2020) and 291 (2022) valid ballots were received within the three day period. In 2022 in Johnson County, it was 575 ballots. Without current law, these Kansans' votes would have been thrown out.

Linda Sanchez

Leawood, Kansas