



Date of Testimony: Thursday, February 6, 2024

Bill Number: HB 2572: Imposing personal delivery restrictions on individuals delivering advance voting ballots on behalf of other voters

Disposition: Opponent; Written only Testimony

From: Martha Pint, President, 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 2572.

The League supports fair and secure elections. We also support efforts to encourage all eligible Kansans to vote. Unfortunately, we believe that HB 2572 may have the effect of discouraging Kansans from voting. We believe that is the case because HB 2572 requires persons delivering advance ballots to a county election office, on behalf of a voter, to have his/her photograph taken by an election office worker. That strikes us as overly burdensome as the voter and the person designated to deliver the advance ballot are already required to sign a statement regarding the delivery of an advance ballot (as per KSA 25-2437).

We also believe this bill verges on being intrusive as it requires the deliverer to have his photo taken for each ballot he or she delivers. It does not seem unreasonable that the overly burdensome and intrusive nature of this bill could dissuade individuals from agreeing to deliver a ballot for a voter. In such situations, eligible voters may be denied the opportunity to vote.

We are also concerned about the additional burden HB 2572 is likely to create for county election offices that, it has been widely reported, are already struggling to find enough workers. What does it mean if an election worker has to stop what he or she is doing and take a picture of an individual delivering an advance ballot and to repeat that process for each advance ballot the deliverer brings to the election office? And what does it mean in terms of additional work if the county election office must not only take the pictures, but also track each of those pictures and link them in some fashion to the advance ballot delivered, the deliverer and the voter?

As we have heard in testimony from county election staff, voting in Kansas is safe and secure. It seems to us what is required in HB 2572 is overly burdensome, intrusive,

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unneded and may discourage voting on the part of some Kansans.

We ask you to vote NO on HB 2572.

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