

February 14, 2023

Testimony to the Senate Committee on Federal and State Affairs

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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. I am disappointed that I need to write a letter to oppose a bill that is so blatantly trying to limit mail in voting. Making voting easier for Kansans should be something that our legislators should be striving for, not working against. No sufficient data exists to show that voting by mail is in anyway a risk to the legitimacy of the voting system. If anything, the idea that enough votes (postmarked on election day) is enough to potentially make a difference in the outcome serves as a reason to keep the current system in place. ALL voters should be heard. As a voter who consistently using my mail-in-ballot every year, I am wary of any attempts to limit my voice. We should be working to expand access to voting, not limiting it.

I ask you to oppose SB 209 and any other legislation that attempts to limit voting.

Jennifer Ancell
Shawnee, KS