

**February 14, 2023**

**Testimony to the Senate Committee on Federal and State Affairs**

**NAME:** Amy Hill

**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 only testimony

Dear Chair & members of the committee,

I am writing to voice my opposition to bill SB 209. The deadline to receive mail in ballots up to 3 days after election day was put into place for a reason – because more people were voting by mail and mail delays are a real challenge today. Kris Kobach testified in favor of the 3 day extension in 2017 and the circumstances that led to the extension are even more pronounced now today.

Many college students vote by mail because they are away at school during an election. College students are generally new to navigating the voting process so we should be using our processes to fortify their efforts to be part of the election process, not trying to make it more difficult. We have a family friend whose daughter had to drive from Manhattan to Olathe to vote in the last election because there was an issue with her mail in ballot and she wanted to make sure her vote was counted. This is real commitment, but not all college students would show that commitment; so allowing the time for them to participate is important both from a logistical perspective but also so they don't become disillusioned with the process and lose interest in being a part of it.

The 3 day extension should not be removed. Please vote no on bill SB 209.

Amy Hill  
Olathe, KS