

2/15/2023 8:57:12 AM

Bill Number: Senate Bill 209

Disposition: Proponent

Pamela J. Gieseke-Becker

Chairman Thompson and Members of the Committee:

My name is Pamela Gieseke-Becker and as a registered voter in Douglas County, KS, it is my wish to submit my testimony to be considered for Senate Bill 209 which, if passed, will require all mail in ballots to be collected by 7 PM on the specific election date.

I am in favor of this bill. I believe that there is a serious risk of breaching the integrity of the election by not collecting these ballots by the date of election. The State of Kansas provides an ample window of time for early voting and the mail in ballots should only apply to those residents who are currently out of the State.

Drop boxes used during the Pandemic are no longer necessary now that the Pandemic is over. These boxes should be removed and not be used for the gathering of ballots. The uncertainty as to the validity of these ballots is great and the time taken to certify ballots gathered from drop boxes can delay election results. The State of Kansas should have the ability to tally certified ballots completely on the date of election.

It is my hope that the Senate will pass SB209. Thank you for your consideration.