

March 23, 2023

Testimony to the Committee on Federal and State Affairs

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Bill #: SB 321, Presidential Preference Primary Election

Proponent, Opponent, Neutral: Opponent

Oral or Written Only Testimony: Written only

Dear Chair and members of the committee,

I am writing today to express my opposition to SB 321. I initially was leaning toward supporting this bill until I had a short discussion with a Kansas voter who reminded me that 30% of our registered voters are Unaffiliated. Those voters aren't involved in the partisan political organization election process, and yet this bill might impact them all the same by using tax dollars to support the presidential preference primary election activities.

I am looking forward to hearing the opinion of our Secretary of State's office, as well as some of our larger county election commissioners, on how this election bill would impact election workers and volunteers across the state, and I wish we'd had more time to consider and explore what this bill will mean to our election process in 2024.

If political parties want to change their presidential primaries in 2024 by activating a mail ballot presidential primary election similar to how the Democratic Party did in 2020, that seems like a solution to whatever problem this bill is attempting to address.

I hope that you will act judiciously on this legislation and vote no on SB 321.

I thank the committee for your consideration of my position.

Jennifer Day

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