

Testimony of Catherine Gunsalus, Director of State Advocacy Heritage Action for America February 11, 2025

Submitted to the House Committee on Elections

Position: Proponent, Senate Bill 4

Chairman Proctor and Members of the Committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to provide written testimony supporting Senate Bill 4 (SB 4) relative to the receipt date for mail-in ballots. My name is Catherine Gunsalus, and I represent Heritage Action for America, a national grassroots organization with two million conservative activists nationwide, including thousands of Kansans.

Current law requires that mail-in ballots be postmarked by 7:00 pm on Election Day with a three-day grace period for receipt, postponing election results. In 2024, nearly 100 million Americans voted by mail. According to the U.S. Postal Service, Kansans requested over 600,000 absentee mail ballots and returned approximately 525,000 of these ballots. In the 2024 primary election, many of these ballots lacked a postmark. This error disenfranchised voters.

With more Americans and Kansans voting by mail, delays in counting ballots mean delays in results. Delaying the declarations of election outcomes can cause confusion and lack of confidence in the electoral process. SB 4 is a common sense proposal to streamline Kansas elections and ensure trust among voters.

Heritage Action supports SB 4 and we urge your support of this important legislation.

Catherine Gunsalus Director of State Advocacy Heritage Action for America