

Opponent Testimony on House Bill 2438
House Committee on Elections
Samiya Rasheed- Private Citizen
January 14, 2026

Chair Proctor, Members of the Committee,

Thank you for your time. I'm Samiya Rasheed, a Kansas voter from Douglas County. In the past few years I have had the pleasure of canvassing in Douglas, Wyandotte, and Johnson County to increase voter engagement. I've been able to do this both on years where there were intense federal elections and years where the ballot only contained local names. Often meeting with my neighbors for the first time and understanding what they are concerned most about in the community has been an incredible joy. Through that process, I've seen many people on the fence or hesitating decide to make the choice to vote. It's an incredible experience and one that is made fundamentally possible by sites like KSvotes.org.

Online voter registration tools like KSvotes.org are crucial and non-partisan tools to reach all Kansans. Time and time again, these tools have proven to be a safe and effective way to register to vote or to check registration. In our digital age, more and more people default to using these tools—especially if registering in person is physically difficult. If HB 2438 was passed, this tool would suddenly be unavailable—likely without clear media coverage and leaving hundreds of people who intended to use it scrambling. This bill will cause incredible confusion and distrust right before a midterm election.

These sites are a crucial way to access our democracy. While there is an online registration tool hosted on a .gov site, this form requires Driver's license to move forward whereas KSvotes.org requires a driver's license OR a social security number. Both are secure methods of identification, but driver's licenses will exclude thousands of eligible Kansas voters. While canvassing, I remember meeting teenagers that had just become eligible to vote but didn't have driver's licenses or seniors that no longer drove but could get their children to help them to the polls; we were able to engage them into registering to vote and hopefully paying more care to local issues. This once again, was made possible but the sites that HB 2438 is targeting.

HB 2438 is a damaging bill that will lead to fewer eligible and engaged Kansans from being able to take part in the process at the heart of our country. It's paramount that this committee can help these voters and defend the voting rights of your constituents. For that reason, I ask that the committee opposes HB 2438. Thank you for your time.