

Opponent Written Testimony on HB 2438

House Committee on Elections
January 15, 2026

Chair Proctor, Members of the Committee,

I'm writing to ask you not to support HB 2438. This measure would prevent locally elected county clerks and elections officers from exercising their discretion over voter registration processes. This bill would allow the Secretary of State to ban any online voter registration tool for any reason, or no reason at all.

It's long been said that the best government is that which is closest to the people. This bill takes the opposite approach, substituting the Secretary of State's authority for that of officials who are closer to the people. What's more, this law would go into effect immediately, so there would be no rules or regulations for voter registration efforts to follow in order to be endorsed by the SOS until after the 2026 election. If what you desire is less participation in our democratic processes, congratulations. This bill is just what the doctor ordered.

As a matter of process, it is not good practice to propose and act upon legislation without allowing adequate time for public input and deliberation. If this bill is a good idea it will survive that process. If not, it should be killed.

Respectfully,

Bryan Thompson
851 Beatrice
Salina, KS 67401