

January 20, 2026

Testimony to the House Elections Committee

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BILL NUMBER: HB 2452

PROPONENT, OPPONENT, or NEUTRAL: OPPONENT

ORAL or WRITTEN ONLY TESTIMONY: WRITTEN ONLY

Chair Proctor and members of the committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to voice my opposition to HB 2452. I oppose this bill because it would overwhelm voters and reduce informed participation in local elections.

Even-year ballots are already extremely long due to federal and statewide races. Adding city council, mayoral, and school board contests to those ballots would create information overload, making it far more difficult for voters to research down-ballot candidates and issues.

In even-numbered years, voters are bombarded with political ads, texts, phone calls, and mailers. Adding local races to that environment increases confusion and voter fatigue, leading more people to skip important down-ballot races or rely on partisan cues that are inappropriate for nonpartisan offices like school boards and city councils.

Civic engagement should prioritize informed participation, not just higher turnout numbers. Keeping local elections in odd-numbered years allows voters to focus, learn, and make thoughtful choices about their communities.

For these reasons, I urge you to oppose HB 2452.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Amanda Winch
Overland Park, KS