

January 20, 2026

Testimony to the House Elections Committee

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BILL NUMBER: HB 2452

OPPONENT

WRITTEN ONLY

Chair and members of the committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to voice my opposition to bill 2452.

Even-year (presidential & midterm) ballots are already extremely long due to federal and statewide races. This would make it even harder for voters to research down ballot local issues and candidates. Adding city council, mayoral, school board races on the ballots with federal and statewide races will create voter fatigue and lead more voters to skip critical down ballot races. Voters are more likely to rely on partisan messaging in even-year elections, which is a poor fit for nonpartisan local offices like school boards and city councils. Local elections are about schools, roads, utilities, zoning, and public safety—issues that deserve focused attention, not competition with presidential or congressional races. Media coverage in even-years is dominated by national politics, leaving little room for substantive discussion of local governance. Community forums and candidate debates for local offices would be even harder to organize and will receive less public attention in even-numbered years.

Please vote no on bill number HB 2452.

Thomas Hubler

Shawnee, KS