

January 20, 2026

To: Testimony to House Elections Committee

From: Naomi Wood, Kansas citizen, wood.naomi@gmail.com

Re: HB 2452

Opponent of this bill

Written only testimony

Dear Chair and members of the committee,

I would like to voice my opposition to HB 2452, which would change the way we currently run local and regional elections in the state.

There is a great deal of business the state needs to conduct, regardless of when national elections take place. Shifting the elections process to alternate years postpones that necessary business, whether it's city council, mayoral, school board races, actions on roads, utilities, zoning, and public safety, or any of the other pressing concerns a community may face.

Because national media focus on national races, there is less awareness and discussion of regional ones, especially in even years. There is not enough room for substantive discussion of local governance as it is. This bill would make that situation worse. I would rather see elections work to enhance voter involvement at all levels of governance rather than suppressing it by making opportunities more scarce.

Please vote this HB 2452 down. The advantages do not outweigh the disadvantages.

Thank you for your attention,

Naomi Wood

Manhattan, KS