



Proponent Testimony on HB 2447
House Committee on Elections
Third District Republican Committee
Tuesday, January 27, 2026

Chairman Proctor and Members of the Committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to submit proponent testimony on behalf of the Third District Republican Committee. House Bill 2447 establishes a permanent presidential preference primary in Kansas to be held on Super Tuesday, ensuring Kansas voters have a meaningful, accessible, and timely opportunity to participate in the presidential nomination process.

Full access to participation at every level of a presidential election is paramount to the full and proper functioning of our representative republican form of government. The allocation of presidential nominating delegates should be conducted through an election that most accurately reflects the popular will of Republican and Democratic primary voters in the State of Kansas. A state-administered presidential preference primary is the most legitimate institution for accomplishing that goal.

Holding a presidential preference primary on Super Tuesday is uniquely suited for maximizing voter participation. It is one of the most widely publicized election dates in the country, consistently covered by both local and national media. That visibility drives voter awareness and engagement and, as a result, produces higher turnout than less prominent election dates. Super Tuesday also occurs early enough in the presidential calendar, immediately following the early states, to ensure that the nomination contest is still active and relevant for Kansas voters. For example, in 2024, the Republican nomination remained contested on Super Tuesday, giving Kansas voters a meaningful opportunity to participate in a competitive race.

In addition to increasing participation, holding the presidential preference primary on Super Tuesday provides a clear fiscal benefit. Aligning this election with other elections commonly scheduled on that date, such as local bond elections, allows election administrators to share staffing, facilities, equipment, and administrative costs. Combining elections in this manner reduces the overall fiscal burden on the state and local governments compared to conducting a standalone presidential preference primary.

By contrast, Kansas's most recent presidential caucus, functionally a party-run primary, demonstrated the serious shortcomings of that model. Voting was limited to a Saturday afternoon with restricted hours, immediately excluding many working Kansans and those with

family or caregiving obligations. I personally arrived at my polling location at Olathe South High School when voting opened and still stood in line for approximately two hours. When I left, the line was wrapped around the building. That experience was not an anomaly, but instead reflects the structural limitations of a system lacking the capacity, staffing, and infrastructure of a state-run election.

Even in years when one party's presidential nomination appears settled, it would be fundamentally wrong to deprive Kansas voters of the opportunity to fully participate in the process of selecting the next President of the United States. Voters deserve the ability to cast a ballot in a predictable, accessible, and professionally administered election, not one constrained by limited hours, volunteer capacity, or procedural bottlenecks.

House Bill 2447 provides Kansas voters their rightful place in the presidential nomination process. By establishing a permanent Super Tuesday presidential preference primary, this bill maximizes participation, reflects the popular will, and does so in a fiscally responsible manner that benefits both voters and taxpayers.

For these reasons, I respectfully urge the Committee to support House Bill 2447.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Respectfully Submitted,



Matthew Bingesser
Chairman
Third District Republican Committee