



Proponent Testimony in Support of HCR 5021  
House Committee on Elections  
Thursday, January 29, 2026

Chairman Proctor and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of HCR 5021, which proposes to amend the Kansas Constitution to require voters to present valid identification in order to vote and to place that requirement directly into our state's foundational law. I urge your favorable report on HCR 5021 so that the question can go before the voters on the August 4, 2026, primary election ballot.

This amendment is not about partisanship; it is about strengthening public confidence in the integrity and security of our elections. Voter identification requirements have broad public support across the political spectrum, and Kansans from all walks of life want to be confident that no one can cast a ballot in someone else's name.

The popularity of voter ID reforms is not theoretical; it is reflected in real-world results from other states that have already asked citizens directly whether they want such requirements enshrined in their constitutions. For example, on April 1, 2025, voters in the battleground state of Wisconsin approved a constitutional amendment requiring photo identification to vote by a decisive margin. The yes position received 1,437,317 votes (62.79%), and the no position received 851,851 votes (37.21%).

In the coverage and post-election analysis of that vote, national political analyst Steve Kornacki of NBC News highlighted a particularly important point: support for voter identification was strong even among voters who typically lean Democratic, not just Republicans. This is a sign that this issue transcends standard party lines. Kornacki noted that in many of the most Democratic areas of Wisconsin, the voter ID amendment still performed well, illustrating that voter ID is broadly popular among a wide cross-section of the electorate. This amendment passed even as the Democratic candidate in Wisconsin's Supreme Court election won handily.

By placing the voter ID requirement in the Kansas Constitution, HCR 5021 would:

- Lock in a widely supported election integrity measure that protects the credibility of Kansas elections;
- Provide clarity and permanence so future generations of Kansans, regardless of political climate, know that election rules are fair, secure, and transparent; and

- Send a strong message to voters that Kansas is committed to both secure elections and equal treatment at the ballot box.

Opponents sometimes argue that voter ID laws suppress turnout. But the Wisconsin example shows that voters themselves, not just elected officials, want secure elections. Imposing sensible identification requirements does not limit access but rather strengthens confidence that every legal vote is counted and that our democratic processes are respected.

For all these reasons, I respectfully urge your support for HCR 5021 so that Kansans can vote directly on this important constitutional amendment on August 4, 2026.

Respectfully submitted,

Rob Fillion  
Executive Director  
Kansas Republican Party