

Monique Garcia  
Private Citizen  
HB 2448 Opponent  
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Chair Proctor and Members of the Committee, thank you very much for the opportunity to submit written testimony on HB 2448. My name is Monique Garcia and I am submitting this testimony as a private citizen. I am a voter in Wichita and a longtime community volunteer dedicated to civic engagement and maintaining the health of our democracy. I respectfully urge you to vote NO on HB 2448.

I strongly oppose this bill based on my personal experience with voter engagement and my family's deep history of civic participation and military service in this country. As a member of the League of Women Voters – Wichita chapter, I have spent years assisting with nonpartisan voter education and engagement efforts. In all of that work, I have never encountered evidence of widespread voter fraud. The narrative that non-citizens are voting in large numbers is simply not supported by reality.

My opposition is also rooted in my family's history. Both of my grandfathers were the sons of immigrants from Mexico and proudly served in the United States Army during World War II. My paternal grandfather, Phillip Garcia, and my maternal grandfather, Ralph Lopez, fought bravely for this country as U.S. citizens. After returning home from the war, my Grandpa Ralph made it a point to dress in a suit and tie every time he went to vote. When asked why he went through the trouble, my Grandpa Ralph would say that he had seen fellow soldiers die in combat and that voting was a privilege, an honor, and a responsibility he did not take lightly.

That lesson has stayed with me my entire life.

HB 2448 undermines that legacy by advancing inaccurate and harmful narratives about immigrants and voter fraud. It would create fear, confusion, and unequal treatment by marking people's identification with citizenship status, without clear safeguards or processes for updates. This approach risks denying eligible citizens their rights and further erodes trust in our democratic systems.

At a time when many working immigrant families already live with fear and uncertainty, this bill adds stigma and division rather than strengthening election security. Immigrants most certainly contribute to Kansas's workforce and economy while remaining ineligible for many public benefits. In many cases, immigrants pay into systems they will never benefit from. Kansas elections are secure. Policies like this do not protect democracy — they weaken it.

Thanks again for considering my written testimony! Please vote NO on HB 2448.