



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.

HCR 5021 is fundamentally about election integrity and public confidence. Kansans must be able to trust that every ballot cast is lawful and that election rules are clear, stable, and consistently applied.

Kansas already requires photographic identification to vote. This amendment is not a new idea but instead places an important tool of election integrity in our state's constitution. A fitting place for a safeguard that protects the legitimacy of our elections. By doing so, it provides certainty for voters, election officials, and the courts, and helps prevent last-minute changes that can undermine confidence in the electoral process.

Voter identification is a commonsense measure that protects against impersonation and reinforces the principle of one person, one vote. Even isolated misconduct can damage trust in close elections, and election laws should be designed to prevent vulnerabilities before they occur.

Importantly, HCR 5021 preserves legislative flexibility by allowing the legislature to set the details of implementation by law, including reasonable accommodations. The amendment simply establishes voter identification as a constitutional baseline for election integrity.

For these reasons, I urge the committee's favorable consideration of HCR 5021.

Respectfully Submitted,

Christopher McGowne  
General Counsel  
Kansas Republican Party