

Kristen Blackton
Private Citizen
HB 2448 Opponent
1/29/2026

Chair Proctor and Committee Members,

My name is Kristen Blackton, and I am a voter in Johnson County. Thank you for reading my opponent testimony today for HB 2448. After reading this bill, I urge the committee to vote NO on HB 2448.

As someone who votes in every election, does advocacy work to encourage voter turnout, and has worked the election day polls several times, I know quite a bit about how elections are run in my county. Our elections are safe and secure. We do not have a mass of non-citizens voting in our elections in Kansas. However, passing bills like this one will discourage some eligible voters from registering and using their voice at the ballot box. This bill is the first step in changing voting rules to make it more complicated for eligible Kansans to cast their votes. This bill also lacks specific processes for how this change would be implemented, which gives me pause. How would it affect current identification? What's the process for updating identification if citizenship status changes?

In short, this bill seeks to solve a problem that does not exist, and in doing so, creates more confusion and an easier path to strip citizens' voting rights. I urge the legislature to focus their attention on more pressing election matters, such as expanding advanced voting options or expanding access to ballot drop boxes in Kansas's largest counties.

Thank you for reading my testimony today. I encourage the committee to vote NO on the passage of HB 2448.

Kristen Blackton
Shawnee, KS