



Date of Testimony: Thursday, January 29, 2026

Bill Number: **HB 2448** — Requiring citizenship status be listed on driver's licenses.

Disposition: Opposition, Written only Testimony

From: Cille King, Advocacy Chair; League of Women Voters Kansas

To: Chair Representative Proctor and Members of the House Committee on Elections

The League of Women Voters of Kansas opposes HB 2448, which would require citizenship status on all Kansas driver's licenses.

Currently, for all new and replacement Kansas driver's licenses; drivers are required to show proof of citizenship or legal status.

This bill would add an additional display of citizenship status on all driver's and ID cards. Those who are **non-citizens** but are lawful permanent residents; visa holders, refugees and other **non-citizen** with lawful presence would be **subject to bias, profiling, or other negative treatment** during interactions, causing concerns about privacy and stigma. We feel this bill sets a dangerous precedent, particularly for **non-citizens**.

However, after **citizens** go through the process of presenting their original proof-of-citizenship documents, many are surprised and disappointed to learn that their "**Real ID**" IS NOT a proof-of-citizenship document – because there is no differentiation on a **Real ID** between a citizen and non-citizen.

Many **citizens** have difficulty with continually proving citizenship; those who have changed their name or who have difficulty keeping a birth certificate or naturalization document.

We propose that Kansas **offer enhanced driver's licenses (EDL)** to serve as proof of identity and U.S. Citizenship. Five northern states currently offer these licenses which meet the security standards of the REAL ID Act, including U.S. citizenship status, are marked by the word "Enhanced", and can have a yellow REAL-ID star at the upper corner. They can be used in place of a U.S. Passport to cross a U.S. Border and are recognized by Canada, Mexico, and the Caribbean. The EDLs have a chip in them which provides only a number that links to information proving U.S. Citizenship. No personal information is included.

We ask that you **amend HB 2448**, remove the citizenship status requirement, and replace it with the option for an enhanced driver's license for those Kansas citizens who desire a less expensive, but more accessible document.

