

The Cross Border Network, President
HCR 5021 Opposition Testimony
1/29/2026

Chairman Proctor and Members of the Committee: I appreciate your interest in the views of Kansans on HCR 5021. I am a Kansas voter as are most of the members of my organization. We have canvassed voters encouraging people to vote in federal, state and municipal elections because we believe that the best government is the one where there most citizens participate. For that reason we are opposed to HB 5021 because it will discourage voting. Therefore I encourage your committee members to vote NO on HCR 2051.

There are many reasons why you should reject this resolution and an amendment to the Constitution. First, you have no convincing evidence that there is any significant election fraud due to people who are not eligible to vote exercising the franchise. While the claim that there is illegal voting has been repeated many times, the number of cases of it over many elections is single digit. So this is a "solution" in search of a problem. Second, what this amendment would do is suppress voting by people who indeed have the right to vote thus skewing the results. I suspect that's the motive and it frankly is an attempt to rig the results of our elections. Third by writing this into the constitution you will make it very difficult to reverse when in fact the results show that it has suppressed the vote of otherwise qualified voters. Indeed, For these reasons,

For all the above reasons, I strongly urge you to reject this poorly researched and written amendment and instead change the course of this committee to look at programs to enhance both voting by those who do not vote even though they may and accurate information about candidates and judges who are on the ballot. Voter education rather than voter suppression is what we urge you to do. Thanks for considering this and for your vote against HCR 2051.

PRIVATE CITIZEN

HCR 5021 Opposition Testimony

1/29/2026

Thank you Chair Proctor and Members of the Committee for allowing me to share my thoughts on HCR 5021 with you. My name is Holly Bartlett and I am a voter in Shawnee County/Topeka. I would like to encourage this committee to vote NO on HCR 2051.

I oppose this bill because it doesn't seem like much thought was put into it, and changing the constitution is a big deal. Any changes made should be carefully considered and should only happen out of true necessity. This feels like a solution to a problem we don't have. To support this, I would need to see evidence of voter fraud as I have not been able to find sources that show any significant levels. But we know that many folks who are eligible to vote will suddenly find it more difficult. Many people no longer have appropriate documentation. It can be costly to replace lost documents, and in this current economy, who can afford that? Some people aren't able to travel to where they can gain access to documents. Some people don't have internet access or a good understanding of how to use it. If a person has changed their name, gotten married, gotten divorced, the number of documents needed continues to grow. These are just a few of the reasons people will find it difficult to vote.

How much will it cost to make these changes? Will everyone have to register again? Will people be informed, or just show up at the polls, only to find out too late that they were kicked off the list? Will there be a reasonable amount of time for people to obtain eligible IDs, or is the intention to rush this through quickly, close to an election, with the hope that "less than" voters won't be prepared in time? Didn't Kansas try this before and it was a huge failure?

At any rate, I feel the harm outweighs any benefit. It also disproportionately disadvantages the poor, the elderly, the disabled, and women. All eligible citizens should be both allowed to and encouraged to vote. I will never be in favor of any bill that makes it harder to do so, especially without any real proof of benefit. There are many ways that time, energy and money could be spent to make Kansas better. This is not one of them.

Once again, I appreciate you giving me the opportunity to share my thoughts on this bill, and I encourage you to vote no on the passage of HCR 2051. Thank you.

Private Citizen
HCR 5021 Opposition Testimony
1/29/2026

Chair Proctor and Committee Members,

Thank you for taking the time to read my testimony. My name is Kristen Blackton, and I am an every-election voter in Johnson County. I am writing today to encourage committee members to vote NO on HCR 2051.

I cannot express how much I love voting-- my young daughter gets tired of hearing me talk about it. I also love volunteering to be an election worker! I have worked the polls for two elections and plan on volunteering again this year. Because of my experience in volunteering as an election worker in one of the largest counties in the state, I can tell you that our elections are safe and secure. Our election officials know what they are doing and have created a process where all registered voters can exercise their right to vote with as much ease as possible.

Because of my background with elections, this proposed amendment baffles me. Why do we need to amend the constitution when we already have safe and secure elections with our current laws on the books? As I see it, the constitution should only be amended to correct harm and or fix a large problem-- neither of which applies here. I fear that the true intent behind this proposed amendment is to make it harder for certain subsets of Kansas eligible voters to exercise their right to vote. There is no real evidence that this change would make our elections safer or more secure. Instead, it will, in all likelihood, silence the voices of more voters by discouraging them from showing up at the polls due to changes to or confusion about identification requirements.

Thank you for reading my testimony. I hope that you will listen to the voices of Kansas constituents and vote NO on the passage of HCR 2051.

Thank you,

Kristen Blackton

Shawnee, KS

Private Citizen
HCR 5021 Opposition Testimony
1/29/2026

Chair Proctor and Members of the Committee, thank you accepting my written testimony on HCR 505. I am Sheryl Brotton, a voter from Douglass, in Butler County. Please vote NO on HCR 2051.

This bill to amend to the Constitution is another attempt to rig the system. The courts struck down efforts to make it more difficult to vote. This is an attempt to remedy a percieved problem WHICH DOES NOT EXIST!1

Once again I thank you for your recognition of my concern. i encourage you to vote NO on HCR 2051.
Thank you Sheryl Brotton

PRIVATE CITIZEN
HCR 5021 Opposition Testimony
1/29/2026

Thank you to the Chair Proctor and Committee members for this opportunity to express my opposition to HCR 5021. I'm Gregory Bryant, and I vote in Robinson precinct, Brown County Kansas. I wish the Committee to vote NO on HCR 5021.

The Constitution is not the proper place for simple legislation. Changing the Constitution is too cumbersome for a reason — general principles of governance should have a stability that particular matters do not require. The legislature exists to enact laws each year. This issue does not require enshrinement in the Constitution. As a matter of fact, the United States Constitution does not even set a citizenship voting requirement. In my view, living in a state and being subject to its laws should, by the logic of equal protection of the laws, entitle one to vote. My personal opinion is not shared by all, but it is reasonable enough that these requirements of photo IDs and other cumbersome documentation should be matters of simple legislation, simply altered by legislation.

Thank you again for allowing me to express my opinions to the Committee. Please vote NO on HCR 5021.

PRIVATE CITIZEN
HCR 5021 Opposition Testimony
1/29/2026

Dear Chair Proctor and Members of the Committee, thank you so much for giving me time to share my thoughts on HCR 5021 with you today. My name is Olivia Katherine Crouch and I am a voter in Shawnee, Kansas. I am writing to you all today to encourage committee members to vote NO on HCR 2051.

The reason why I so strongly oppose HRC 2051 is because it is a legislative attack on my and fellow Kansans constitutional rights. Our constitution already sees current voter ID formalities as proficient for running our elections securely while protecting Kansans rights. HCR 2051 would change that drastically limiting what types of identification can be utilized harming Kansan voters who are more disenfranchised or lack access to more rare forms of identification like passports. It also violates the privacy of us Kansans who do not wish to present such deeply personal documentation to engage in our civic duty of voting. This and many reasons others have stated is why I opposed HCR 2051!

Once again, I thank you all for hearing my story and thoughts on this bill, and I encourage you all to vote NO on the passage of HCR 2051. Thank you committee members.

PRIVATE CITIZEN
HCR 5021 Opposition Testimony
1/29/2026

Chair Proctor and Members of the Committee, thank you so much for giving me time to share my thoughts on HCR 5021 with you today. My name is Lorene Damewood and I am a voter in Johnson County-Shawnee. I am writing today to encourage the committee to vote NO on HCR 2051.

I oppose this bill because it is redundant and unnecessary. We already have a state law which requires photo ID for voting. I have worked since 2004 at elections in Douglas and Johnson counties as Worker, Asst. Judge and Presiding Judge. Elections were secure before the addition of the requirement of photo ID and they remain secure. There have been minuscule attempts to vote illegally, a tiny fraction of 1 per cent over all the years and elections investigated.

In recent years, the former Johnson County Sheriff spent untold hours and money to investigate election fraud and found nothing. What a waste!

Our State Legislature seems too fond of messing with our Constitution, demanding that we change what has been working well to satisfy some partisan whim to make matters more difficult and/or unwieldy. We already have constitutional amendments on the ballots for both the August and November elections. Voters are not fond of the poorly written amendments that usually confront them, because of their doublespeak language. We don't need an amendment to say what the law already says.

Once again, I thank you all for hearing my story and thoughts on this bill, and I encourage you all to vote NO of the passage of HCR 2051. Thank you.

Chairman Proctor and Committee Members,

I am Debbie Detmer of Shawnee and a Kansas GOP delegate. I am a proponent on HCR 5021.

We in Kansas do show our ID to vote. This needs to be part of our constitution. We can't leave it to a judge to decide differently.

Thank you all for protecting our election integrity. I would appreciate a bill to eliminate machines and truly use only paper ballots.

Please pass HCR 5021 out of committee favorably.

Thank you,

Debbie Detmer

KS GOP Delegate



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

January 29, 2026 meeting

Nina Fricke, KS voter ninafricke9@gmail.com

Chair Proctor and committee,

I urge you to oppose HB 2448 and HCR 5021, measures which aim to put unnecessary barriers to voting. Similar measures in 2018 would have disenfranchised over 35,000 voter from being able to cast their ballots. Voting is our right as well as our civic duty. We must make sure every eligible voter has access to voting without barriers. These bills would restrict what kind of photo ID could be used at the polls. This would affect all voters across party lines.

From my training as a pollworker, I know that Kansas elections are already safe and secure with results that are certified. Eligible voters should be given every opportunity to cast their ballots! Our democracy functions best when the peoples' voices are heard.

Again, I ask you to oppose HB 2448 and HCR 5021.

Nina Fricke
Overland Park

Private Citizen
HCR 5021 Opposition Testimony
1/29/2026

Thank you for allowing me to share my thoughts on HCR 5021 with the committee. My name is Danielle Voorhees George and I am a voter in Johnson County.

Kansans deserve to have their lawmakers treat their constitutional rights with respect rather than changing them on political whims.

Without doing their due diligence, some lawmakers are proposing amending the constitutional right to vote which will only make it more complicated and challenging. This is not something that needs time wasted on.

Thank you and I encourage you to vote No on HCR 2051

Private citizen
HCR 5021 Opposition Testimony
1/29/2026

Thank you committee members. I am Jenna and I vote in Shawnee County.

Watching you waste time on bills like this is so annoying. I was writing testimony during my birthday dinner. Vote no to spend time on literally anything else.

Can we please debate legislation where there are actual studies that support the idea? Can we please focus on policies that resolve actual problems? Why do we keep making up solutions where there aren't problems? Are you guys just bored?

Thank you for your time. I encourage you to vote no and spend your time on meaningful bills. That's what we pay you for.



TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF

HCR 5021

Presented to the
Kansas House Committee on Elections

January 29, 2026

Steve Greene on behalf of
Madeline Malisa, *Visiting Fellow*
FGA Action

Chairman Proctor and members of the Committee, thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of HCR 5021. My name is Steve Greene, and I am here today on behalf of FGA Action, a non-profit advocacy organization that seeks to improve American lives through free enterprise, individual liberty, and a limited, accountable government.

HCR 5021 will enshrine the Kansas voter photo ID law in our state constitution

This change will ensure that photo ID can't be tossed aside by an activist judge or rolled back through politics. Voter photo ID is the single most effective way to verify a voter's identity. A constitutional amendment will provide this safeguard in all future Kansas elections.

Voter photo ID laws are overwhelmingly supported by Americans

At the ballot box across the country, voters have approved constitutional amendments by wide measures. In 2025, Wisconsin voters supported their voter photo ID constitutional amendment by 63 percent.¹ In 2022, Nebraska voters approved a constitutional amendment by 65 percent and in 2018, Arkansas voters did the same with 79 percent support.²⁻³

Requiring photo ID is also hugely popular with voters of all political persuasions.⁴ Nationally, nearly eight in 10 Americans support photo ID requirements and consider election integrity and security very important to them.⁵ Photo ID laws are popular for a reason—voters understand that they increase security in the voting process and certainty in the election outcome.

Voter photo ID laws are in effect in Kansas and across the country

Photo ID laws have been widely enacted in the U.S. In fact, Kansas is one of 24 states that require photo ID to vote. The other states include Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Idaho, Indiana, Kentucky, Louisiana, Michigan, Mississippi, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, New Hampshire, North Carolina, Ohio, Rhode Island, South Carolina, South Dakota, Tennessee, Texas, West Virginia, and Wisconsin.⁶ This session, similar bills have already been introduced in Iowa, Minnesota, Oklahoma, and Wyoming.

Voter photo ID laws are prevalent internationally

Photo ID laws have also been widely enacted across the world. Many countries including Brazil, Czech Republic, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, India, Israel, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, Mexico, Netherlands, Norway, Switzerland, Sweden, and the entire UK all require photo ID to vote.⁷

Voter photo ID laws are common sense

At the federal level, the 2005 Commission on Federal Election Reform, headed by former President Jimmy Carter and former Secretary of State James Baker, recommended a photo ID system to ensure the integrity of elections.⁸ The Commission found that, "The electoral system cannot inspire public confidence if no safeguards exist to deter or detect fraud or to confirm the identity of voters. Photo IDs currently are needed to board a plane, enter federal buildings, and cash a check. Voting is equally important."⁹

The same is true here in Kansas. Showing a photo ID isn't groundbreaking or new for daily life or for voting. This requirement belongs in the Kansas Constitution to safeguard future generations of voters. I respectfully urge this committee to support HCR 5021 and send the constitutional amendment to the voters. Thank you for your consideration, and I am happy to answer any questions.

¹ Ballotpedia, "Wisconsin Question 1, Require Voter Photo ID Amendment (April 2025)," [https://ballotpedia.org/Wisconsin_Question_1,_Require_Voter_Photo_ID_Amendment_\(April_2025\)](https://ballotpedia.org/Wisconsin_Question_1,_Require_Voter_Photo_ID_Amendment_(April_2025)).

² Ballotpedia, Nebraska Initiative 432, Photo Voter Identification Initiative (2022), [https://ballotpedia.org/Nebraska_Initiative_432,_Photo_Voter_Identification_Initiative_\(2022\)](https://ballotpedia.org/Nebraska_Initiative_432,_Photo_Voter_Identification_Initiative_(2022))

³ Ballotpedia, "Arkansas Issue 2, Voter ID Amendment (2018)," [https://ballotpedia.org/Arkansas_Issue_2,_Voter_ID_Amendment_\(2018\)](https://ballotpedia.org/Arkansas_Issue_2,_Voter_ID_Amendment_(2018)).

⁴ Center for Excellent in Polling, "2022 National Election Security Poll," Foundation for Government Accountability (2022), <https://excellenceinpolling.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/06/CEP-Polling-National-Election-Security-Poll-Crosstabs.pdf>.

⁵ Ibid.

⁶ Ballotpedia, "Voter identification laws by state," Ballotpedia (2025), https://ballotpedia.org/Voter_identification_laws_by_state.

⁷ Tom Barton, "Understanding a Key Electoral Tool: A New Dataset on the Global Distribution of Voter Identification Laws," Journal of Representative Democracy (2021), <https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/00344893.2022.2113117#abstract>.

⁸ Commission on Federal Election Reform, "Building Confidence in U.S. Elections, Report of the Commission on Federal Election Reform (2005)," <https://law.osu.edu/electionlaw/litigation/documents/Veasey7848.pdf>.

⁹ Ibid.

Private citizen
HCR 5021 Opposition Testimony
1/29/2026

Chair Proctor and Members of the Committee, thank you so much for giving me time to share my thoughts on HCR 5021 with you today. My name is Lisa Hamrick and I am a voter in Wyandotte County. I am writing today to encourage the committee to vote NO on HCR 2051

This legislation does nothing to strengthen election integrity. Instead, it creates unnecessary barriers that make it harder for Kansans to cast their ballots. The inevitable consequence is that eligible citizens will be wrongfully stripped of their fundamental right to vote.

Once again, I thank you all for hearing my story and thoughts on this bill, and I encourage you all to vote no of the passage of HCR 2051. Thank you.

Private Citizen
HCR 5021 Opposition Testimony
1/29/2026

Chair Proctor and Members of the Committee, thank you for giving me the opportunity to share my thoughts on HCR 5021. My name is Patricia Harrigan and I am a voter in Johnson County in Prairie Village, Kansas. I am writing today to encourage the committee to vote NO on HCR 2051.

Changing our state constitution to require voters to present a photo ID when voting is unnecessary. Section 25-2908 of Kansas law requires that voters present a valid form of identification with the name and photograph of the voter. Amending Article 5 of the state constitution is redundant and unnecessary.

HCR 5021 would restrict what types of photo IDs could be used at the polls. This could create confusion and potentially disenfranchise thousands of Kansas voters, who wouldn't be able to use an eligible ID, such as a college student ID or a tribal ID, that they've used in the past.

Changing voting requirements is confusing and could make all voters—Republican, Democratic, and Independent—unsure of the requirements of what is needed to vote, which could lead to voter suppression. Restrictive voter ID laws give voters the impression that politicians are creating bureaucratic barriers to rig the system instead of making it easier for all eligible voters to participate in our democracy.

Kansas elections are already secure. On page 5 of the Kansas Elections 101 document (<https://sos.ks.gov/Pubs/Elections/Elections-101.pdf>) provided by the Kansas Secretary of State Scott Schwab, the year 2022 milestone was that: “Substantial election security bill passed by Kansas legislature. Improvements include enhanced election equipment security, additional election audits, voter database maintenance, ballot watermarks, and chain of custody procedures.” This quote explains recent highlights of Kansas’s election security. There are many other explanations in this document explaining how Kansas elections are secure, including Kansas’s election laws to other states and how election equipment is certified.

Again, thank you for letting me share my thoughts on this resolution. I encourage you to vote NO on the passage of HCR 2051. Thank you.

Private Citizen
HCR 5021 Opposition Testimony
1/29/2026

Chair Procter and Members of the Committee, thank you for giving me time to share my thoughts on HCR 5021. My name is Allison Hougland and I am a voter from Olathe in Johnson County. I am writing to encourage you to vote NO on HCR 5021.

It is my opinion that you should be making it easier for the citizens of Kansas to vote - not harder. An engaged electorate is better for everyone in the state. Adding barriers will only disenfranchise potential voters. People may and should question the reason you don't want them to participate in elections.

Thank you for hearing me out. I encourage you all to vote NO on the passage of HCR 5021. Thank you.

Private Citizen
HCR 5021 Opposition Testimony
1/29/2026

Chair Proctor and Members of the Committee, thank you for giving me time to share my thoughts on HCR 5021 with you today. My name is Rija and I am a voter in JOCO County/Olathe. I am writing today to encourage the committee to vote NO on HCR 2051

HCR 5021 is entirely based on partisan politics and bill proponents have no real evidence that this would make our elections safer or more secure. If the real priority is election security, the focus should be on making the voting process simpler and more accessible, not more confusing or expensive. We already have a voter registration system in place that verifies eligibility before anyone receives a ballot. If there is a belief that ineligible individuals are being registered or voting, then the appropriate response is to investigate the Secretary of State's office, which oversees that process. And if evidence of wrongdoing exists, then we address it directly and fix the actual problem.

If the belief is that photo IDs are essential for election security, then the barriers to obtaining those IDs must be addressed first. That means making all state-issued IDs free of charge and ensuring that the process to obtain them is fast, efficient, and accessible to every eligible voter. If these considerations have not been fully examined or discussed, it reflects a lack of genuine nonpartisanship within this committee, particularly under Chair Proctor's leadership.

I thank you all for hearing my thoughts on this bill, and I encourage you all to vote NO of the passage of HCR 2051.



Date of Testimony: Thursday, January 29, 2026

Bill Number: HCR 5021 - Amending article 5 of the constitution of the state of Kansas to require voters to present photographic identification at the time of voting.

Disposition: Opponent, 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 HCR; a constitutional amendment requiring photo ID to vote.

Currently, in Kansas statutes, photo ID is required to vote. It has been a law since 2012 with the implementation of the SAFE ACT. Kansans have learned to bring their photo ID to the polls or provide their ID # or photocopy when applying for an absentee ballot.

The proposed amendment only allows Kansas and United States issued photo IDs, severely limiting who can vote. Current regulations allow for several different government issued photo IDs, including: other states drivers license, public and private school ID, Native American tribal card, or a concealed carry license from any state.

This resolution is unnecessary, un-American and pety to put this type of regulatory detail in our Kansas constitution.

We ask that you vote NO on HCR 5021 as the current statute is more than sufficient.

HCR 5021

PROPOSER TESTIMONY - WRITTEN

HOUSE ELECTIONS

Missy Leavitt

Missy.leavitt@protonmail.com

Dear Mr. Chairman and Committee Members,

As a Kansas citizen and active advocate for election security and the integrity of our electoral processes, I stand in strong support of HCR 5021.

I appreciate the willingness of this committee to present us with the opportunity to rectify a matter that has arrived at our doorstep with the realization that we need to strengthen our constitution with this measure.

I was appalled by the comments of Davis Hammet during the hearing for the online registration bill, regarding their awareness of ID requirements for voter registration and it not being required on a federal application. It just clarifies for me that indeed any small loophole to avoid citizenship verification to register and to vote must be eliminated at all levels. This bill is wholly appropriate and consistent with constitutional intents of what our framers intended to have protected in our electoral process.

I find it unfortunate that we find ourselves needing this opportunity to codify it directly, in as such I request quick passage by this committee.

Thank you for your consideration of my testimony here today.

Best Regards,

Missy Leavitt