

Private Citizen
HCR 5021 Opposition Testimony
1/29/2026

Thank you Members of the Committee for giving me time to share testimony on HCR 5021. My name is Mariah Magaña and I am a voter in Garden City. I am writing to encourage you to vote NO on HCR 2051.

Changes to Article 5 of the Constitution should not be taken lightly. This measure would create new obstacles for Kansas voters and could prevent people from using student IDs or tribal IDs to participate in future elections. Strict voter ID requirements have a proven history of suppressing voters, and there is no evidence they are needed. Kansas elections are already safe, secure, and accessible.

I thank you all for taking time to read my thoughts on this bill and I encourage you all to vote NO on HCR 2051.

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 Melanie Magana and I am a voter in Olathe. I am writing today to encourage the committee to vote NO on HCR 2051

Rather than make it simple for Kansans to register to vote, politicians want to make it more complicated by banning secure online tools that help citizens register to vote and participate in our state's elections.

Instead of doing their job to make it easier to participate in our democracy, politicians are trying to rig the system in their favor. They want to change voter registration rules right before an election. This silences voters and makes voting tougher for everyone.

When elected leaders failed to make an online voter registration tool that works for regular people, civic leaders stepped up and built ksvotes.org. Now, they want to ban it. [Ksvotes.org](http://ksvotes.org) is a safe and secure online tool for voter registration. It has been used securely for almost a decade and helped countless Kansans register 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

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Chair Proctor and Members of the Committee,

My name is Joy Mapes. I am licensed master social worker, and I have lived in Kansas my entire life. I am a voter in Lawrence, Douglas County. I am writing today to urge the committee to vote NO on HCR 5021.

HCR 5021 would make it more difficult for Kansans who have a legal right to vote to do so. Currently, Kansas are able to present a variety of photo identification at the time of voting. Many already present their Kansas driver's license, but those who don't have a Kansas driver's license or state ID can still vote if they show their student ID, tribal ID, or another form of photo ID. It takes time, transportation, and money to go to the DMV, wait in line, and pay the fee to get a Kansas driver's license or state ID. Requiring that process for all Kansas voters will only disenfranchise those with limited resources, and it wouldn't make voting more secure since the schools and tribes who issue the other forms of ID go through extensive processes to verify identity.

The current photo ID policy for voting is already sufficiently secure. Passing HCR 5021 would only make the voting process overly restrictive and disenfranchise legal voters. We do want all legally eligible Kansas to vote so we can have a robust electorate and hear everyone's voices, right?

Thank you for considering my thoughts. I urge you to vote NO on HCR 5021.

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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 Cassie Martin and I am a voter in Leavenworth County. I am writing today to encourage the committee to vote NO on HCR 2051.

In May 2025, I graduated from Washburn University with my Master of Social Work.

Since beginning my journey into this profession, I have worked closely with Kansans of all backgrounds.

One tool that I have frequently used is the City ID process in the City of Topeka. This is a vital resource, and many folks start with city ID before being able to gain a state photo ID.

When I read this proposed legislation, I can't help but understand it as state lawmakers saying "We don't trust your city employees. We don't trust your municipality to be able to effectively identify people."

Another photo ID form that I cherish, even as an alumna, is my iCard or Ichabod Card from Washburn.

When I read this proposed legislation, I can't help but understand it as state lawmakers saying "We don't trust your university employees. We don't trust your school to be able to effectively identify people."

Lastly, I am largely disappointed at the attempt to squeeze a public vote into the August 2026 primaries. AGAIN. This will intentionally leave out the voices of certain voters.

Vote no on this bill. It has zero merit.

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.



DAVE MAXEY

STATE REPRESENTATIVE • 83RD ASSEMBLY DISTRICT

Testimony on House Concurrent Resolution 5021

House Committee on Elections

January 29, 2026

Thank you, Chairman Proctor and committee members, for hearing my testimony on House Concurrent Resolution 5021. My name is Dave Maxey. I am a representative in the Wisconsin State Assembly and the Chairman of the Wisconsin Assembly Committee on Campaigns and Elections. In 2025, Wisconsin voters overwhelmingly approved amending the Wisconsin Constitution to require a valid voter ID to vote.

Wisconsin's voter ID law was enacted in 2014 and has not resulted in voter suppression. On the contrary, voter participation has increased since its implementation. In November 2024, voter turnout reached 76.6 percent, compared to 69.5 percent in 2016. At the time the law was enacted, the League of Women Voters argued it would complicate elections and make voting harder. However, after the 2016 and 2018 elections, the League admitted that the elections proceeded smoothly and without major issues. While Wisconsin's constitutional amendment did not change existing law, it ensured that this fundamental voter integrity measure remains the law of the land.

Polling has consistently shown strong support for voter ID requirements, with a 2024 Pew Research Center poll finding nationwide support at 81 percent. Wisconsin is often described as a 50/50 "purple" state, yet nearly 63 percent of Wisconsin voters supported amending our Constitution to require voter ID. If there was one action we could have taken simultaneously, it would be to mandate voter IDs to also confirm citizenship. However, Wisconsin's voter ID law has been largely effective in ensuring election integrity and boosting public confidence in our elections.

With both foreign and domestic threats to our democratic processes, our elections should be at least as secure as your front door when you go to bed, if not more. I urge you to support HCR 5021, keep our republic secure, and allow the voters of Kansas to decide. Ensuring that voter ID is required under the Kansas Constitution will strengthen confidence in the electoral process for generations to come.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dave Maxey".

State Representative Dave Maxey
Wisconsin's 83rd Assembly District
Chair – Committee on Campaigns and Elections

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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 Katie McElroy and I am a voter in Wichita. I am writing today to encourage the committee to vote NO on HCR 2051.

This bill would restrict what types of photo ids could be used at the polls, potentially disenfranchising thousands of Kansans who have an eligible ID now, such as a student or tribal ID, but wouldn't be able to use those to vote in the future. This is a deliberate move to bar Kansans of color and any Kansan who would potentially vote Democrat from exercising their constitutional right to vote.

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. Meanwhile, there is an enormous amount of evidence that restricting voter access through bureaucratic barriers like restrictive voter ID laws cause real harm through voter suppression. Voter suppression is the only aim of this bill.

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

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Chair Proctor and Members of the Committee, thank you for considering my thoughts on HCR 5021. My name is Gretchen Meyer and I am a voter in Overland Park. I am writing to ask you to vote NO on HCR 2051.

I oppose this bill because I believe in the values of Kansas. Our state was founded by people who were passionate defenders of freedom, dignity, and human rights. This bill seeks to undermine the very rights that they fought and died for by suppressing thousands of voters' voices. In spite of the many conspiracy theories that have circulated over the past fifteen years, there is absolutely no evidence of widespread voter fraud anywhere in our country. Our elections are safe and their results are accurate. This bill would make the results of our elections almost meaningless. When you take away the right to vote from thousands of people, it does not make your elections more secure - it makes them a sham. Our state constitution guarantees the right to vote. That constitution belongs to the people of Kansas and it is your job to protect it. Please do your job.

Thank you for again considering my thoughts on this matter. I ask all of you to please vote NO on HCR 2051. Thank you.

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Chair Proctor and Committee Members, thanks for the opportunity to share my thoughts on HCR 5021 with you today. My name is Katrina Morris and I am a voter in Overland Park in Johnson County. I am writing today to encourage the committee to vote NO on HCR 2051.

There is no evidence that there are any issues or problems with the current state of security of KS elections. Please do not pass any legislation that makes it more challenging for people to vote.

Thank you for voting no on HCR 2051 to make it as easy as possible for eligible voters to vote!

Thrive Allen County, Policy Coordinator
HCR 5021 Opposition Testimony
1/29/2026

Chair Proctor and Members of the Committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in opposition to this bill. I am writing today to encourage the committee to vote NO on HCR 2051. Thrive Allen County and Thrive Kansas' mission is to ensure that our rural communities have access to the resources they need to improve health outcomes, so that everyone in our communities can thrive. One way that we encourage our community to improve their health outcomes is to become civically engaged. And one of the most accessible way they can become civically engaged is to vote.

HCR 5021 makes the ability to participate in voting unnecessarily tedious as well as potentially restricting the ability for thousands of Kansas to vote. As it currently stands, there are a host of photo identification that individuals can present in order to vote in Kansas. Because of these options, they allow people the ability to vote using identification that has already been verified that the person in possession of the identification is who they say they are. Changing the Kansas Constitution is not a decision that should be made lightly. As it currently stands, the approved photo identification used to verify a person is who they say they are prior to voting is a system that functions and functions well. Our elections are not in any jeopardy of fraud from people who are ineligible to vote. Our elections are secure.

Passing HCR 5021 would not make our election any more secure but rather render them to be more inaccessible. The potential to restrict specific forms of photo identification that are currently eligible for use of photo identification before voting disenfranchising Kansans that are want to vote. They want to have their voice heard and they want to actively participate in civic matters. Passing legislation that would make it difficult if not impossible for them to vote does not equate to safer elections. It equates to constituents not being heard and represented well.

Again, thank you all for hearing my thoughts and concerns on this bill. I strongly urge you all to vote no on the passage of HCR 5021. Thank you.

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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 Mikaela Navarro and I am a voter in Johnson County. I am writing today to encourage the committee to vote NO on HCR 2051

I oppose this bill because this would limit the rights for those who are able to vote. Student and tribal IDs should continue to be allowed. It is not constitutional to limit people when it comes to voting. How is it a free country and if restrictions and limitations are placed?

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
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Chair Proctor and Members of the Committee - my name is Adrienne Newlin and I am a voter in Overland Park (Johnson County). I am writing today to encourage the committee to vote NO on HCR 2051.

Elections in Kansas are secure. The ideas of fraud are just that, ideas - conspiracy theories with no supporting facts or evidence. This bill is just another way for unpopular politicians to rig the system instead of letting the will and voice of voters be reflected in the polls. This bill will disenfranchise thousands of voters and place unfair restrictions on many Kansans. Our state constitution is a sacred document and should be respected and protected as such.

Thank you for your time and once again, I ask you all to vote NO on HCR 2051.

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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 Matthew Obold-Geary and I am a voter in Johnson County. I am writing today to encourage the committee to vote NO on HCR 2051

While I support the integrity of our elections, I do not believe this amendment will improve Kansas elections and instead will create barriers to voting for lawful citizens.

Requiring photo ID at the polls disproportionately affects certain groups of voters, including low-income Kansans who may not be able to obtain the necessary identification due to fees or lack of transportation, elderly voters, many of whom no longer drive and may lack current government-issued ID, and people with disabilities and rural residents with limited access to state ID offices.

There is no credible evidence of widespread in-person voter fraud in Kansas that would justify a constitutional amendment. Kansas already has checks and balances in its election system to protect against fraud. Adding a photo ID requirement will impose additional hurdles without addressing real election administration vulnerabilities.

Embedding this requirement in the Constitution makes future adjustments more difficult, even if unforeseen barriers emerge. Any needed changes to accommodate voter needs or access would require another constitutional amendment, a costly and lengthy process.

The goal of our election system should be to encourage participation while ensuring election security. Good public policy seeks balanced solutions that enhance access and trust. This proposed amendment prioritizes a narrow “fix” that could limit participation without demonstrable benefit to election security.

For these reasons, I urge the Committee and the Legislature to reject HCR 5021. Rather than constitutionalizing a photo ID requirement, the Legislature should pursue measures that expand access to the ballot, such as public education about existing ID options, online ID renewals, or free, mobile ID services in underserved areas. Thank you for your consideration.

January 22, 2026

House Committee on Elections

HCR 5021, written testimony only

Respected Chair Proctor and Committee Members,

I am a proponent and ask that you vote YES on this House Continuing Resolution; please pass it favorably out of Committee.

This HCR requires the presentation of photo identification issued by the state of Kansas to vote. This is basic and required for much lesser activities. This gets us one step closer to ensuring we are having safe and secure elections; we MUST REQUIRE photo IDs to vote. It's shocking and unbelievable that it is not already part of the constitution of our state.

We must make this part of our Kansas law so please vote YES and pass this favorably out of Committee.

Thank you.

Most Sincerely,

Jill O'Connor

Kansas Precinct Committee woman, OP, 5-18

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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 Yareli Ortiz and I am a voter in Shawnee County. I am writing today to encourage the committee to vote no on HCR 2051.

I urge you all to vote against HCR 5021 because our state constitution is a sacred document that should only be altered when it is necessary. This proposed amendment is not necessary as our state elections are secure and this bill only makes it harder for eligible Kansans to vote.

Once again, I thank you all for hearing my thoughts on this bill, and I encourage you all to vote no on the passage of HCR 5021. Thank you.

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Chair Proctor and Members of the Committee, thank you for reading my thoughts on HCR 5021 today. My name is Melinda Parks and I am a voter in Johnson County. I am writing today to urge the committee members to vote NO on HCR 2051.

This bill would serve as a voter suppression tactic. As a married person, I have changed my name. This may cause me to have to have my marriage license in order to vote. For many of us, we have that information. But so many of our citizens, both young and old, don't have that information. Recently, my father-in-law is 89 and was told his record of birth wasn't valid. He was born at home with his parents and a local doctor. The registrar's office wanted a witness to his birth in order to issue an official birth certificate. Clearly his parents and the doctor present at his birth were no longer alive. My husband fought through the red tape, contacted the local county office and was able to get his birth certificate re-issued. But not all elderly persons have family or friends who are able to serve that role.

Our very democracy was built on the power of the vote by the people. This goes against everything we in the state of Kansas and the United States of America stand for.

Thank you for your consideration. I strongly urge each of you to vote NO on HCR 2051.

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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 Charles Patrick and I am a voter in Bonner Springs in Wyandotte CO. I am writing today to urge the committee to vote NO on HCR 2051

I fought to protect the constitution of not only the United States but of Kansas. Having legislators use it as a cudgel on voters based solely on political whims. It's dangerous and irresponsible to change our constitution through rushed, sloppy legislating. Passing this bill Will Not protect or secure our elections in Kansas. Kansas elections have been proven to be secure.

Thank you for listening to my testimony on this bill. I urge you all to vote NO on the passage of HCR 2051.

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 2051 with you today. My name is Claudia Patrick. I am a voter in Wyandotte CO, and I am writing today to encourage the committee to vote NO on HCR 2051!

I believe we have dealt with this issue before when Mr Kobach burdened us with having to provide a picture ID to vote. A federal court in 2018 found the law to be unconstitutional and that it violated the National Voter's Registration Act. Now you want to rewrite the Kansas constitution, which should only be done after thoughtful consideration and when it is absolutely necessary.

We Kansas deserve to have our constitutional rights treated with respect and not on lawmakers changing them on political whims. It's dangerous and irresponsible to change our constitution through rushed, sloppy legislating.

Kansas elections are already secure. This has been proven time and again. Which is why I am urging all of you to vote No and HCR 2051!



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January 29, 2026 - Kansas House Elections Committee hearing on HCR 5021, constitutional amendment, photo ID for voters – Neutral testimony

Chairman Proctor and Distinguished Committee Members,

My name is Rick Piepho, Harvey County Clerk and Chairman of the Elections Committee of the Kansas County Clerks and Election Officials Association (KCCEOA). The KCCEOA is a statewide organization with 109 members, including all county clerks and election commissioners in Kansas. Our members are responsible for administering voter registration and elections at the local level and are committed to ensuring elections that are free, fair, secure, and efficiently administered.

I am submitting this neutral testimony on behalf of the KCCEOA membership regarding HCR 5021. The intent of this testimony is to provide information from an election administration perspective and to outline general implementation and administrative considerations related to the resolution as introduced.

From an administrative standpoint, placing a voter identification requirement in the constitution may reduce flexibility for future adjustments to accommodate evolving election practices, technology changes, court decisions, or operational realities. County election officials rely on statutory and regulatory frameworks that can be more readily updated to address implementation challenges, training needs, and procedural refinements.

Current Kansas statute (KSA 25-2908) already establishes photographic identification requirements for voting, including a list of acceptable forms of identification and specific statutory exceptions. If a more restrictive identification standard is placed in the constitution, existing statutory provisions that allow additional forms of identification or recognize exceptions may be superseded. This could affect voters whose only photographic identification was issued by another state, an Indian tribe, or a municipal or county government, as well as voters who currently qualify for statutory exemptions, such as those whose religious beliefs prohibit being photographed.

Additionally, from an administrative perspective, the committee may wish to consider whether the election date for submitting this constitutional question to voters should be the General Election on November 3, 2026. Placing constitutional amendments on a Primary Election ballot requires the creation of an additional ballot style for unaffiliated voters and for voters affiliated with parties that do not conduct a primary, increasing ballot programming complexity, testing requirements, printing costs, and logistical planning.

The KCCEOA does not take a position for or against HCR 5021 at this time. These comments are offered to assist the committee in understanding potential operational and voter-experience considerations associated with the resolution. This testimony is submitted in writing only.

Thank you for your consideration,

Rick Piepho, Harvey County Clerk & Election Officer – KCCEOA Elections Committee Chair