



Written Testimony of Jacqueline Doyer
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House Bill 2448 | Kansas House Elections Committee
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Chair Proctor, Members of the Committee: Thank you for the opportunity to testify today on House Bill 2448, a critical measure to reinforce the integrity of Kansas elections.

My name is Jacqueline Doyer, and I am the Legal Policy Director for Honest Elections Project Action, a nonprofit entity dedicated to defending the right of every American to vote in free and honest elections.

House Bill 2448's requirement that state-issued driver's licenses and identification cards clearly indicate the holder's citizenship status is an essential step in further safeguarding Kansas elections. This simple but effective measure will make it easier for election officials to protect against illegal voting and to deter fraud.

Kansas law appropriately requires individuals to present an approved form photo of identification when voting in person. Driver's licenses and state identification cards are acceptable forms of identification for voting in Kansas. However, Kansas also issues driver's licenses and identification cards to noncitizens, and there is no clear visual distinction between the cards issued to noncitizens and those issued to citizens.

This creates a significant vulnerability in elections. As recent cases in Kansas and other states have demonstrated, it is possible for noncitizens to register and vote illegally. Just a couple of months ago, the Mayor of Coldwater, Kansas was charged with repeatedly voting illegally as a noncitizen. Without a clear designation regarding citizenship, an ineligible noncitizen could present a Kansas-issued driver's license or identification card and vote without triggering any additional scrutiny from officials. House Bill 2448 provides a straightforward and effective solution to this problem.

Importantly, this bill places no new burdens on Kansas residents. Kansas law already requires individuals applying for a driver's license or state ID to provide proof of U.S. citizenship or lawful presence. The bill merely ensures this information is reflected on the face of the card itself. Nor does HB 2448 obstruct the voting process for naturalized citizens. Any recently naturalized citizen can easily obtain an updated driver's license or ID card, or provide a naturalization card or certificate as supplementary identification when voting.

HB2448 is a commonsense measure to protect the integrity of elections in Kansas. The right to vote is a cornerstone of our democratic process and it should always be reserved exclusively for American citizens. Anytime a noncitizen is able to cast an illegal ballot, whether deliberately or not, the voice of a citizen and lawful voter is canceled out.

For these reasons, I strongly urge this committee to advance HB 2448. Thank you, and I welcome any questions.