

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