

Private citizen
HCR 5021 Opposition Testimony
1/29/2026

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.