

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.