

Cassie Martin  
martincassie3@gmail.com

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SB4 WRITTEN ONLY OPPONENT

Chairman Thompson and Members of the Committee, I want to express my sincere gratitude for the time it takes to review written testimony. Being able to express my opposition to SB4 is so important to me. My name is Cassie Martin and I am a voter in Shawnee County. I am writing today to encourage the committee to vote no on SB4.

There are many reasons that SB4 is an unwise idea, however, the recent blizzard on January 4th and 5th provide a critical example of how weather systems impact the logistics of U.S. Postal Service. Mail providers have been unable to receive or deliver mail for several weeks following the extreme storm. While this was a historic event, early November is no stranger to severe weather. Average lows in Eastern KS during November hover around 33-35°. Western KS experiences far colder average lows during the month of November, consistently recorded around 25-29°. Ice events are also more common in Western KS, where rural mail carriers can be most impacted by severe weather and impassable roads. The 3 day grace period for mail-in ballots protects people's critical voting rights in case of emergencies. That's why it's named a "grace-period." Please don't leave it up to chance on the weather.

Once again, thank you for hearing my perspective on this issue. I encourage all committee members to vote no on the passage of SB 4. Thank you.