

**January 22, 2025**

**Testimony to the Senate Committee on Federal and State Affairs**

**NAME:** Jessica Bright

**TITLE:** Private Citizen

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**BILL NUMBER:** SB 4, requiring the return of advance ballots by Election Day

**PROPONENT, OPPONENT, or NEUTRAL:** Opponent

**WRITTEN ONLY TESTIMONY:**

Chair Thompson & members of the committee,

I am writing to voice my opposition to bill SB 4.

Kansas's elections are some of the best in the country. Every year we set a standard for honest, fair, inclusive elections that balance well between expeditious results and ensuring no voters are disenfranchised.

Chair Thompson's bill would upset that balance in favor of voter disenfranchisement.

We are all familiar with mail delays and they happen for a vast number of reasons, from weather events, to the busy holiday mail season, which so conveniently picks up just in time for November elections. My mail has been delayed before because one of my neighbors wouldn't stop parking in front of the cluster box, making both outgoing and incoming mail inaccessible to the postal carrier.

The risk of not allowing American citizens their right to vote far outweighs the stated desire of rapid election results.

Let us remember the purpose of the three day grace period was to account for the mail delays caused when USPS closed Kansas processing centers. That are still no USPS processing centers in Kansas, our mail is still delayed, and therefore it is imperative that the three day voter protection period is retained.

In closing, I am in opposition to bill SB 4.

Jessica Bright

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