

SESSION OF 2026

SUPPLEMENTAL NOTE ON HOUSE BILL NO. 2493

As Recommended by House Committee on
Elections

Brief*

HB 2493 would modify the sworn statement a person submits when transmitting or delivering an advance voting ballot on behalf of another voter. The statement would now include the identification number of such person's driver's license or nondriver's identification card and that such person affirms they are a qualified elector.

Background

The bill was introduced by the House Committee on Elections at the request of Representative Proctor.

House Committee on Elections

In the House Committee hearing, **neutral** testimony was presented by representatives of the Kansas County Clerks and Election Officials Association and the Secretary of State. The conferees generally stated the requirement of a qualified elector could pose potential problems, as the *Kansas Constitution* defines a "qualified elector" as an individual who is eligible to vote but does not require they be registered, and, further, federal law provides a voter who requires assistance by reason of disability or inability to read or write may be given assistance by a person of the voter's choice.

*Supplemental notes are prepared by the Legislative Research Department and do not express legislative intent. The supplemental note and fiscal note for this bill may be accessed on the Internet at <https://klrd.gov/>

Opponent testimony was presented by representatives of the American Civil Liberties Union of Kansas, Disability Rights Center of Kansas, and Loud Light Civic Action, and a private citizen. The opponents generally stated the bill would discourage people needing assistance to vote from asking for said assistance, and the bill's current use of "qualified elector" is vague.

Written-only opponent testimony was provided by representatives of the League of Women Voters of Kansas and Kansas Appleseed.

No other testimony was provided.

Fiscal Information

According to the fiscal note prepared by the Division of the Budget on the bill, the Office of the Secretary of State indicates it would use existing resources to implement provisions of the bill. The Office of Judicial Administration indicates the bill would not have a fiscal effect. Any fiscal effect associated with the bill is not reflected in *The FY 2027 Governor's Budget Report*.

The Kansas Association of Counties indicates the bill would increase counties' expenditures because the counties would need to revise the ballot envelope to add space for a person's identification number and to verify the number. In addition, if there were a violation, criminal penalties could be pursued by the county or district attorney.

Advance voting ballot; driver's license number