

SESSION OF 2026

SUPPLEMENTAL NOTE ON HOUSE BILL NO. 2503

As Recommended by House Committee on
Elections

Brief*

HB 2503 would repeal the Mail Ballot Election Act as well as all instances of elections directed or authorized to be conducted exclusively through mail ballots.

[*Note:* The bill would not repeal or amend laws providing for advance voting ballots transmitted by mail for primary, general, or special elections.]

Background

The bill was introduced by Representatives Reavis, Bryce, Chauncey, Ellis, Fairchild, Goddard, Howell, James, Pickert, Poetter Parshall, Proctor, Rhiley, Roeser, Roth, Schwertfeger, Steele, Stiens, Waggoner, Willcott and K. Williams.

House Committee on Elections

In the House Committee hearing, **proponent** testimony was provided by Representative Reavis, who stated that at an interim committee hearing in October 2025, the interim committee learned that sending a mail ballot for a mail ballot election counts as voter participation, whether that voter returns the ballot or not; could be a contributing factor to overinflated voter rolls; and stated the bill would address the concerns.

*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/>

Written-only proponent testimony was provided by three private citizens.

Opponent testimony was provided by a representative of the Kansas County Clerks and Election Officials Association. The conferee generally stated that the bill would increase administrative burdens on election officials and decrease voter turnout.

Written-only opponent testimony was provided by representatives of the American Civil Liberties Union of Kansas, City of Overland Park, Kansas Association of Counties, Kansas Legislative Policy Group, League of Kansas Municipalities, League of Women Voters, Loud Light Civic Action, and Southwest Kansas Coalition.

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 utilize existing resources to update training materials for local election officials. Any fiscal effect associated with the bill is not reflected in *The FY 2027 Governor's Budget Report*.

The Kansas Association of Counties indicates enactment of the bill would increase the costs to counties associated with shifting mail ballot elections to in-person voting only, however the agency cannot determine a precise fiscal effect.

Mail ballot election act