

Kansas Federal and State Affairs

Thursday, February 16, 2023

SB209 Proponent Written Testimony

Chairman Thompson, members of the Committee, my name is Mike Brown, I am the Chairman of the Kansas Republican Party and I am writing to support SB209. Election Day in this country is sacrosanct. For last 2 decades, the time frame for voting has been extended through early voting and no-fault advanced balloting. While I support reasonable accommodations for voters, voting must be complete at 7pm on election night. Allowing ballots to be received and counted after 7pm creates one of two schools of thought; either something nefarious is happening or something nefarious could happen. Both are corrosive to confidence in our elections where elections are the foundation of our representative republic.

I have heard from Kansans across the state and their concerns regarding elections. The common theme of all of their comments was that the laws regarding elections must be tightened, there must be penalties involved for breaking those laws, and the enforcement of those laws must be robust.

I ask the committee to support the passage of SB209 in this committee and on the Senate floor.