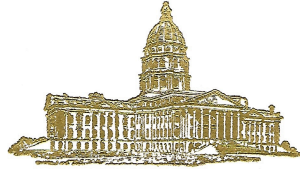


STATE OF KANSAS



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CORRECTIONS AND JUVENILE  
JUSTICE OVERSIGHT

February 19, 2019

**TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SB 43**

The Senate on Ethics, Elections and Local Government:

Chair: Senator Elaine Bowers

Vice-Chair: Senator Randall Hardy

Ranking Minority Member: Senator David Haley

Senator Kevin Braun, Senator Jim Denning, Senator Carolyn McGinn, Senator John Skubal and Senator Susan Wagel

Good Morning Mr. Chairman and other distinguished Members of the Committee, thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of Senate Bill 43:

This bill would allow voters to register on Election Day and will improve citizen participation in democracy as it already has in nine states that allow this system. A 2009 study found the top five voter turnout states in the 2008 presidential election were Minnesota, Wisconsin, Iowa, Maine and Massachusetts' neighbor, New Hampshire. All have Election Day registration.

The bill would ease rules for absentee voting, build in a system using e-mail for some voting administration and allow teenagers to pre-register before they reach voting age.

The bill's centerpiece would allow for voters to register on Election Day.

Same-day registration would allow citizens to register by simply presenting a valid government-issued photo identification card and proof of residence at their polling place. Proponents say it would prevent the disenfranchisement of citizens.

Voter participation helps transform voting from a privilege to a civil right that it's meant to be.

Thank you for your time and attention. I urge you to support SB-43

Sincerely,

Senator Oletha Faust-Goudeau