



To: Senate Ethics and Elections Committee, Chairwoman Senator Elaine Bowers, Vice chair, Randall Hardy, Ranking Minority Senator David Haley, and members of the committee.

From: The League of Women Voters of Kansas, Cille King, Co-President

RE: SB43 – Elections, registration: election day registration – Supporting

Date: February 19, 2019

The League of Women Voters of Kansas supports SB43 in regard to elections, registration, and election day registration. Election day registration benefits all political parties and could increase Kansas turnout by 10-12%. Costs (from surveys of other states) are “minimal”, and the increase in other forms of civic engagement benefit the health of Kansas communities.

We do have a concern that this bill does not allow Kansas registered voters who changed their name or moved to another county can have their provisional ballots counted, and if this is the case, we would like to see amendments to allow those ballots to be counted.

Kansas ranked 48th of all states and the District of Columbia in handling elections, according to a 2018 MIT Report. One concern was the number of provisionals ballots cast and not counted was at least three times that of any similarly sized state in November 2016. Election day registration would allow the majority of those provisional ballots that were cast but not counted, to be counted. <https://www.hppr.org/post/mit-report-kansas-ranked-near-bottom-handling-elections-0>

The Help America Vote Act (HAVA) of 2002 required that all states adopt provisional ballot procedures. States that had Election Day registration or did not require registration were exempted. The MIT study used data from the U.S. Election Assistance Commission's Election Administration and Voting Survey. A large number of “uncounted provisional ballots may indicate a problem in the system – whether it be a citizen who erroneously believed, in good faith, that they were registered: a lack of easy-to-find, accurate voting information; unclear instructions about which precinct a voter was assigned to; or get-out-the-vote efforts that sent ineligible voters to the polls. An unusually high number of provisional ballots rejected is likely a symptom of an inefficient election process.”

Kansas should join the 19 states that have implemented Election-day registration; increase Kansas election efficiency, increase Kansas registered voters, increase voter turnout, and increase the numbers of Kansans who have their vote counted. The Kansas Health Foundation knows that increased voter engagement also results in more civically engaged communities, which also result in healthier citizens.

The League of Women Voters of Kansas asks that you vote YES on SB43.

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O
1	Kansas County Canvass for November 8, 2016 Election														
2															
3	County		Barton	Butler	Douglas	Johnson	Leavenworth	Lyon	Reno	Riley	Saline	Sedgwick	Shawnee	Wyandotte	TOTALS
4	# Registered		17427	42282	81380	407550	50794	19872	41134	33917	35414	293113	109731	79625	1212239
5	# Voting		10455	28357	52164	296833	31146	12844	25088	22811	22694	195746	78356	50295	826789
6	% Voting		60.00%	67.10%	64.10%	73.50%	61.30%	64.60%	61.00%	67.30%	64.10%	66.80%	71.40%	63.20%	68.20%
7	# Provisionals		175	698	2006	10571	748	594	835	1263	620	7286	2078	1960	28834
8	% Provisionals		1.7%	2.5%	3.8%	3.6%	2.4%	4.6%	3.3%	5.5%	2.7%	3.7%	2.7%	3.9%	3.5%
9	# Provisionals not counted		30	275	710	2873	295	223	214	613	152	2194	781	779	9139
10	% Provisionals not counted of total votes		0.3%	1.0%	1.4%	1.0%	0.9%	1.7%	0.9%	2.7%	0.7%	1.1%	1.0%	1.5%	1.1%
11															
12	Voter signed advance ballot envelope, did not complete address line	AG Opinion 10/16/12 2012-26				551			1						
13	Spoiled ballot counted								2						
14	Advance ballot not returned, provisional ballot counted	25-2908(f)			175	1656		45	17				192	198	
15	Voter moved or changed name	25—2316(c)	133		714	2776		295	464	609			700		
16	DMV/Online Full (COA/CON)*	25-2352,25-2316c(b)			52			1							
17	Wrong Precinct – All Count	25-3002(b)(3)			24					18					
18	Advance signature	25-2908c			2										
19	Clerical error	25-3002(b)(1)	6		44	884		26	51				75	68	
20	Voter provided photo ID prior to Canvass	25-1122(e)(2)			12	115			2	3			7		
21		25-1123(c)													
22		25-2908(d)													
23	Replacement Ballot issued	25-1122(f)				145				11					7
24	Voter provided Proof of Citizenship prior to Election day	25-2309(l) K.A.R. 7-23-14			22	32		1					3		
25	Election worker did not initial ID reason did not include "No ID"	25-2908(c)(4) 25-3002(b)(1)				379									
26	Voter needed assistance, assistance signed and voter signed	25-2909 25-1124(b)&(d)				16									
27															
28	Voter needed assistance, assistant signed and voter line blank	25-2909 25-1124(b)&(d)				62									
29	Voter needed assistance, assistant signed on assistance and voter lines	25-2909 25-1124(b)&(d)				3									5
30	Affidavit of former precinct resident completed	25-3702				2									
31	Voter's religious beliefs prohibit photographic ID: voter provided declaration of such to county EO	25-2908(i)(5)				2									
32	Voter voted on paper instead of machine					315									
33	Other								2	9				8	
34	Total # Provisionals Counted		139	325	1045	6938	424	371	536	650	417	0	985	278	12108
35															
36	Wrong polling place	25-3002(b)(3)	5		103	783			24		51		312	219	
37	Correct polling place – wrong ballot	25-3002(b)(3)	1			212			10						
38	DMV/Online Partial (COA/CON)*	25-2353,25-2316c(b)			4										
39	Voter moved within county but didn't reregister before voting	25-409(a) 25-3002(b)(3)			144	30									
40	Voter moved, reregistered, wrong polling								51						
41	Total # Prov. Partially Counted		6	98	251	1025	29	0	85	0	51	5092	312	219	7168
42															
43															
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Sheet1

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O
56	Not registered	25-2302	29		217	1626	293	120	109	612	140	1471	578	738	7047
57	Moved, no new registration								77				63		**
58	Changed Name, no new registration	25-2316(c)(a)				7							14		
59		25-409,25-434													
60	Moved & changed Name, no new reg.												7		
61	Not registered-DMV/On-line Reg*	25-215,25-2302			92										
62	Voter does not live in district	25-2302			24	74		6							1
63		25-2416(a)(1)													
64	Registered in other county	25-3702			297			80	9						
65	Voter did not provide proof of citizenship	25-2309(l)			40	260	2	7	6			48			
66	Signature on envelope didn't match voter record	25-1124(b)&(d)				337					2	57			
67															
68	Voter didn't complete statutory info on envelope	25-2316(d)(2)				307					5				4
69															
70	No ballot in envelope							1				2	31		
71	Voter did not provide photo ID	25-1122(d)(2)	1		33	54		3	4	1	2	46	49	3	
72		25-2908(d)													
73		25-3002(b)(8)													
74	Voter did not sign ballot envelope	25-1136(b)				85		1				144	27	17	
75		25-1124(a)													
76	POA signed envelope	AG letter 9/16/1997				15									
77	Voted on machine & then on paper	25-2908(c)(5)				40									
78	Voted advance & then provisional	25-2908(f)				25		1	9		2	22	9	13	
79	Voted at polls & requested to vote again							4							
80	Business/Mailing?Invalid Address	25-1120&1124(a)				23									
81	Advance Returned	25-2416(b)			2										
82	Should have been provisional	25-2316(c)				8									
83	Envelope had more than one ballot	25-1124(a)				2						2			
84	Ballot arrived w/o official ballot envelope	25-1124(a)				8						63	2		
85	Absentee ballot,Fed write-in,not valid														2
86	Voter cast ballot, died, & election office made it a provisional ballot	25-1136(c)				1							1	1	
87															
88	Felony and had not reapplied	25-215,25-2302			4										
89	Voter/ballot arrived to vote after 7 pm	25-106			1	1					1	339			
90	Total # Prov. Not Counted		30	275	710	2873	295	223	214	613	152	2194	781	779	9139
91															
92	* Voter self-identified as having registered or updated registration On-line or at the DMV, but wasn't forwarded to County Election Office.														
93	** Column O, line 56 = total of all in lines 56 through 65 – all not registered														