

National Association for the Advancement of Colored People KANSAS CITY, KANSAS BRANCH #4033 Bethany Medical Office Building 21 North 12th Street, Suite 230 Kansas City, Kansas 66102 Richard Mabion, President

Monday, February 18, 2019

Letter of Support for Kansas Senate Bill No. 43

"The mission of the NAACP is to ensure the political, educational, social, and economic equality of rights of all persons and to eliminate race-based discrimination."

The NAACP believed freedom would be reached when all persons had the right to vote. And in 1965 the NAACP was instrumental in pressing the government to pass the 1965 Voting Act.

Today, fifty-four years later, the ability for all persons to cast a vote is more difficult due to new laws being generated at the state level which has the potential of voter suppression.

It is not NAACP, Kansas City, Kansas Branch #4033 policy to endorse any political party or candidate. However, we believe all politics is local and voting can make a difference for the greater good in our community. Moreover, every vote count. We evaluated the proposed Kansas Senate Bill No. 43 (SB 43); AN ACT concerning elections; relating to voter registration; allowing voter registration on election days; amending K.S.A. 2018 Supp. 25-2311, 25-2316c and 2-3602 and repealing the existing sections.

The proposed changes contained in SB 43 would allow more citizens to become active voters. We define active voters as citizens that study the candidates and their positions and make a determination by voting for the candidates that are best aligned with the voter's values and aspirations. We are encouraged same day and election day registration would increase active voter turnout.

Therefore, the NAACP, Kansas City, Kansas Branch #4033 support the passage and adoption of SB 43.

Sincerely,

Richard Mabion President

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