

February 19, 2019

Testimony in Support of Senate Bill-43

Senate Ethics and Elections Committee Chairwoman – Senator Elaine Bowers Vice Chair – Senator Randall Hardy Ranking Minority – Senator David Haley Committee Members

Greetings Madam Chair and members of the Committee.

I appreciate the opportunity you have given to speak about SB 43. I, as an elected official myself support Same Day registration in the great State of Kansas.

Often times while speaking with potential voters in our city, I would come across individuals who made up their minds closer to the election that they may be interested in supporting a candidate. We have also seen a number of individuals who have been told they cannot register to vote or have not updated voter registration in some years after several changes of address or name change (due to marriage).

These individuals are almost always greatly disappointed that they cannot participate before of an arbitrary deadline that often comes prior to the most important days of an election. Citizens pay more attention to the race in the final 14 days of an election and it is my belief that same day registration will result in much greater voter participation in this races.

It is never a bad thing to ensure more citizens have an opportunity to participate in the process to choose those who represent them in government. It is also my belief that a greater turnout among every day individuals ensures better representation on the issues that matter to people.

I would simply ask that you support giving Kansas more opportunity to vote.

Thank you for your time,

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