

State of Kansas
Senate Chamber



Randall Hardy
Senator, 24th District

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Sen. Elaine Bowers, Chair

Ethics, Elections and Local Government Committee

SB 351, Proponent Testimony

Provisional ballots are an issue in many states. Kansas is no exception. But there are ways to reduce the number of rejected provisional ballots in Kansas, with little impact on local government.

Voters who move from one jurisdiction to another typically do not update their voter registration information as a matter of course. The time the issue arises is when the voter shows up to vote in a new jurisdiction. Current law prevents that person's provisional ballot from being considered. The proposed bill would allow that person's provisional ballot to be considered if improper jurisdiction is the only defect.

Persons who show up to vote are there because they want to be involved in the election process. We should not turn them away because they failed to update their address ahead of time.

