



KANSAS
ASSOCIATION OF
COUNTIES

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Testimony of the Kansas Association of Counties to the
Senate Committee on Ethics, Elections and Local Government
Proponent Testimony on SB 412 • February 20, 2020

Madam Chair and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for allowing the Kansas Association of Counties to offer testimony in support of SB 412, which would extend permanent advance voting status to any registered voter, with the possibility of ending such status if two consecutive elections are missed.

KAC supports participation in government, particularly allowing Kansas citizens to vote in our elections. Under current law, only an individual with a permanent disability may be granted permanent advance voting status. Any other voter must request an advance ballot prior to each election. SB 412 would allow all voters to request permanent advance voting status. KAC supports this as a means of allowing more convenient participation in the election process.

SB 412 also allows permanent advance voting status to end if an individual does not vote in consecutive elections, or if a ballot is returned as undeliverable. While counties do not oppose providing advance ballots, it is unreasonable to continue to bear the expense of providing ballots that are either being returned undeliverable, or are not being cast. Allowing election officers to end permanent status if an individual skips consecutive elections, or if the ballot is returned undeliverable helps make the costs of this more manageable, which helps extend this ability to more voters.

KAC urges the committee to recommend SB 412 favorably for passage. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Respectfully,

Jay Hall

Kansas Association of Counties

