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STATE OF KANSAS

Testimony: HB2326 (NEUTRAL, written only)

House Elections Committee
Tuesday, February 23, 2021

Chairman Carpenter and members of the Committee:

HB2326 requires each precinct committeeman or committeewoman to provide their address, phone number and email (if available) to the county election officer. As with most other bills not introduced by our office, we are neutral on this legislation but find the bill helpful in addressing ongoing difficulties in communicating with precinct committeemen and committeewoman.

The statutory timeline to replace an elected official is relatively short. HB2326 would help those running replacement conventions, especially in multi-county legislative district, to allow them to rapidly communicate with the precinct committeemen and committeewoman involved in the replacement selection process. Under HB2326 the information of the precinct committeemen and committeewoman would only be available to county election officials and the chair of the county central committee and state party chair.

Our office's involvement in the bill's subject matter is indirect. We assist in helping with replacement conventions when an office holder is no longer able to stay in office. Replacement conventions for partisan election official happen more frequently than most of us realize. With 165 members of the Kansas Legislature and an estimated 850 partisan county elected officials, our office assists with a replacement meeting about every two weeks.

Respectfully submitted,

Katie Koupal
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