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House of Representatives

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Blake Carpenter
Representative, 81st District

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Elections Committee

Supporting Testimony for HB2504

Good afternoon chairman and committee members. The reason why this bill came about was due to an election mishap last Fall during the 2017 local elections. 23 voters in Sedgwick County had their ballots called into question. These 23 individuals had someone else fill out the ballot for them because they were most likely unable to fill out their own ballots. Since the individual voter did not sign their ballot along with the person who helped fill it out for them, these ballots were thrown out.

I reached out to Sedgwick County Councilor Eric Yost about this issue and what can be done to fix this issue. Councilor Yost worked with our revisor Mike Heim to come up with the proposed solution that you now see in front of you. The other item this bill changes makes it so that all 105 counties must use the same advanced ballot template so we have consistency with how our advanced ballots look. This portion of the bill was discussed between Councilor Yost and myself briefly and I decided to include it as part of this bill.

Thank you,


Representative Blake Carpenter