Neutral Testimony on House Bill 2333

Presented to the House Committee on Elections

Davis Hammet January 24, 2018

Chair Bowers, Members of the Committee,

The integrity of the election process is critical to the legitimacy of the government. Without a trusted process, your position and authority are called into question. I register hundreds of Kansans to vote and regularly encounter concerns over the integrity of the process in Kansas. A sizable portion of the concern focuses around electronic voting machines. The current system in Kansas, lacking the ability to verify results, compels me to inform citizens that the only way they can be sure their vote is accurately counted is by casting a paper ballot.

Real election security is important and current vulnerable outdated machines are an immediate and impactful security flaw. I'm testifying neutral, as I'd prefer this bill to go further as a prior bill, HB 2251, attempted to do. The 1% scope is already limited and a full audit within that limited scope would be more appropriate. We have a long journey to complete election legitimacy. House Bill 2333 is a first step to reestablish public trust in the foundation of our democracy, but with every fewer office being audited within its narrow scope, it becomes less meaningful and more symbolic.

With conviction,

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