

Approved

R.H. March 17, 1983  
Date

MINUTES OF THE House COMMITTEE ON Elections

The meeting was called to order by Representative Richard L. Harper at  
Chairperson

9:00 a.m. a.m./p.m. on March 16, 1983 in room 521-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except: Representative George Dean, excused; and  
Representative Joe Knopp, excused.

Committee staff present: Myrta Anderson, Legislative Research Department  
Ramon Powers, Legislative Research Department  
Eric Rucker, Secretary of State's Office  
Dottie Musselman, Committee Secretary

Conferees appearing before the committee:

Senator Mulich, District # 5, Kansas City, Kansas  
Senator Jim Allen, District # 11, Ottawa, Kansas

Chairperson Harper called the Elections Committee meeting to order.  
Senator Mulich was now recognized by the Chairperson to explain his  
bills, SB 116 and SB 117. *Atchs. 1 and 2.*

SB 116 is An Act relating to elections; concerning the use of absentee  
ballots. After a brief explanation of this bill by Senator Mulich, a  
general discussion period followed.

Representative Johnson made a motion to pass out SB 116 favorably.  
Seconded by Representative Kline. Motion carried.

After the Senator gave a brief of SB 117, the Chairperson asked if any  
conferees wished to appear before the Committee. As no one wished to  
testify on SB 117, the hearing was closed on this bill.

The next order of business on the agenda was SB 229, An Act relating to  
elections; concerning deadlines for filing nomination petitions and  
declarations of intentions to become candidates. At this time, Chairperson  
Harper called upon Jon Jossierand of the Secretary of State's office  
to give a brief explanation of this bill.

Chairperson Harper next called Senator Allen to the floor to give insight  
and further explain the purpose of this bill.

A general discussion followed at this time, and it was decided to hold  
SB 229 in the Committee until more information could be gathered from  
the Secretary of State's office and given to the members of the Election  
Committee.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:30 a.m.

(attache 1)

## WYANDOTTE COUNTY ELECTION COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE

9400 STATE AVENUE  
KANSAS CITY, KANSAS 66112

ELIZABETH MALLOY  
ELECTION COMMISSIONER



334-1414

To: The Honorable Richard Harper and  
House Elections Committee

From: Elizabeth Malloy, Wyandotte County Election Commissioner

Re: Senate Bill 116 and Senate Bill 117

I am in favor of Senate Bill 116. This bill will allow persons voting a challenged or disabled ballot to vote the same ballot as the absentee voter. The absentee ballot excludes the names of committee persons.

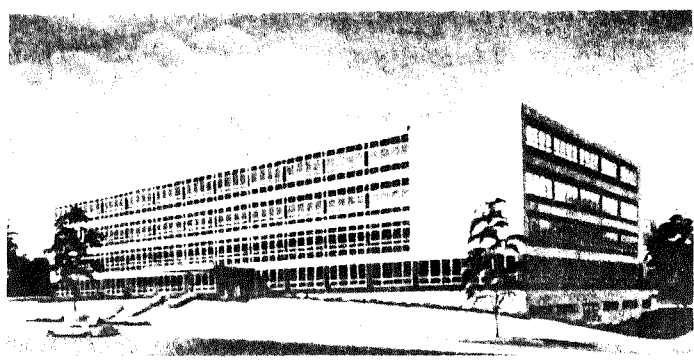
There are few challenged and disabled ballots counted in any election. In the 1982 Primary Election there were 22 ballots counted. There are 159 precincts in Wyandotte County, so it is necessary to print committee persons on each ballot for the Democrat candidates and Republican candidates. This is a very costly (approximately \$3,000) and time consuming to proofread. In my opinion it is a needless expense; therefore, I would appreciate the passage of Senate Bill 116.

Senate Bill 117 concerns propositions and questions. I am in favor of this bill so that it be required to number question submitted ballots.

Thank you for your consideration.

Atch. 1

(attachment 2)



# Shawnee County Commissioner of Elections

*Mary F. Hope, Commissioner*  
SHAWNEE COUNTY COURT HOUSE

TOPEKA, KANSAS 66603

Phone 295-4066

March 15, 1983

Senator William Mulich  
Room 136 North  
State Capitol  
Topeka, Kansas

Dear Senator Mulich:

I regret that I am not able to appear personally before the house committee in favor of SB 116 and SB 117.

The Shawnee County Election office favors the passage of SB 116 because of the savings in printing costs on challenged paper ballots that must be sent to the voting places for those who are unable to vote on the voting machines either because their names do not appear on our list of registered voters or because they are unable to vote on the machine because of physical disability.

Those who vote the absentee ballot either because of absence from the county or because of sickness or physical disability do not vote on the precinct offices. The main reason they have not been able to vote on these offices is because of the expense of printing separate ballots for each of the precincts.

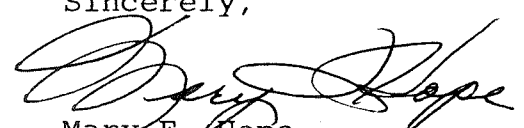
In 1982, we sent out 8,400 precinct ballots, (25 of each party to each of the 168 precincts). Two of those ballots were counted. One was a challenged ballot and one an emergency ballot. It took several employees days to prepare those 8,400 ballots.

In 1980, when we had the ballots printed instead of preparing them in the office, the cost was \$1,590.92.

We favor the passage of SB 117 because of the inconsistency in the wording of present law. Lines 30 and 31 of SB 117 say that questions shall be separately numbered while line 45 presently says they may be numbered.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

  
Mary F. Hope

*Atch. 2*



## SEDGWICK COUNTY, KANSAS

COMMISSIONER OF ELECTIONS

Marilyn Chapman

COUNTY COURTHOUSE • 510 NORTH MAIN • WICHITA, KANSAS 67203-3798 • TELEPHONE (316) 268-7101

March 14, 1983

The Honorable Richard L. Harper  
Chairman, House Elections Committee  
State Capitol  
Topeka, Kansas 66612

RE: Senate Bill 116

Dear Mr. Chairman:

Since I cannot be in Topeka this week I would like to take this opportunity to speak to you about using absentee ballots for challenged ballots. This is a bill which would save the taxpayers of Kansas thousands of dollars.

In Sedgwick County in August of 1982 there were less than 30 challenged ballots. The largest number in any one precinct was two. The outcome of the election for precinct committeewoman or committeeman was not changed in any case. The cost of printing these special ballots to include the names of candidates for committeepersons, most of whom are unopposed, runs well over \$3,000.00 for each election. And the number of man hours required to proofread 488 more ballots is staggering.

I urge your careful consideration of this bill and ask that you pass it favorably.

Yours truly,

*Marilyn Chapman*

Marilyn K. Chapman  
Commissioner of Elections