

MINUTES OF THE Senate COMMITTEE ON Elections

The meeting was called to order by Senator Ronald R. Hein at
Chairperson

1:30 xxx
a.m./p.m. on March 12, 1984 in room 522-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except:
Senator Gannon Senator Roitz
Senator Hayden
Senator Reilly

Committee staff present:
Myrta Anderson, Legislative Research Department
Sharon Green, Committee Secretary

Conferees appearing before the committee:
Representative Lloyd Polson
Secretary of State Jack H. Brier
Ms. Ruth Ann Hackler, Kansas Association of School Boards
Mr. John McGuire
Mr. Bill Anderson, Water District #1, Johnson County

The Chairman called the meeting to order.

Representative Lloyd Polson testified in support of HB 2774, stating that this measure would make the election of precinct committee people consistent with the terms of other local officials. He stated that if the precinct committee people were elected every four years instead of the present every two years, it would save money and time. Representative Polson testified that there were numerous count officials who testified in support of this measure in the House Elections Committee. (Attachment 1)

Questions were asked and a general discussion was held.

Secretary of State Jack H. Brier testified in support of HB 2716, stating that this measure would repeal the sunset on the mail ballot election act. Mr. Brier cited examples of several cities in Kansas where the mail ballot election had increased voter turnout, stating that the lowest turnout was 70%. He also stated that the mail ballot election would save money in the larger cities where there are at least 10 to 15 voting places. He also stated that the Johnson County District Attorney said that there is no problem with respect to the constitutionality of this bill.

Mr. Brier also recommended an amendment to HB 2716, which would provide that the names of voters whose mail ballot envelopes are returned to the county election officer as "undeliverable" shall be subject to be purged from the voter registration list, and that a notice shall be sent out to those voters with regards to this. (Attachment 2)

Questions were asked and a general discussion was held.

Ms. Ruth Hackler testified in favor of HB 2716, and suggested that a plain unmarked envelope be enclosed with the mail ballot, so that people would not feel that they had no privacy in casting their mail ballot.

Questions were asked and a general discussion was held.

Mr. John McGuire, representing Representative Ron Fox, testified in support of HB 2700, stating that this measure amends K.S.A. 19-3507a, concerning election notices within Johnson County Water District No. 1. (Attachment 3)

Mr. Bill Anderson testified in support of HB 2700, stating that this bill only affects Johnson County. He stated that this bill would allow the district to refer electors to a map rather than publishing it, and would reduce the number of times an election notice must be published.

Questions were asked and a general discussion was held.
The Chairman adjourned the meeting.

March 12, 1984

Mr. Chairman and Members of the Senate Standing Committee on Elections:

HB 2774 addresses the need for making the election of precinct committee people consistent with the terms of other local officials.

Hundreds of precincts all over this state have no election other than the one for precinct committee people every other two years. The cost in ballots and election board time to conduct the election of committee people is incompatible with the law which provides for 4-year terms in all offices except for the House of Representatives which is a 2-year term and does not appear on the local ballot.

Lack of filing results in appointments , blank ballots and waste of time and money.

<u>Ballot Cost</u>	<u>County</u>	<u>County Clerk</u>
\$ 250.00	Allen	Jean Barber
2,100.00	Leavenworth	Larry Shiller
1,225.00	Riley	Wanda Coder
690.00	Marshall	Gayle Lowell
300.00	Jefferson	Alyce Riedesel
850.00	Nemaha	Alvin Bauman

Attch. 1

K.S.A. 25-433 (g) The names of voters whose mail ballot envelopes are returned to the county election officer as "undeliverable" shall be subject to removal from the voter registration book and party affiliation list in the manner provided in K.S.A. 25-2316c (d).

RON FOX
 REPRESENTATIVE, TWENTY-FIRST DISTRICT
 JOHNSON COUNTY



TOPEKA

HOUSE OF
 REPRESENTATIVES

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House Bill 2700 amends KSA 19-3507a, a statute concerning election notices within Johnson County Water District No. 1. This bill makes two substantive changes. The first, is to allow the district to refer electors to a map, made available for public inspection, of the water district's boundaries, rather than publishing "in reasonable detail" the boundaries of the water district within the election notice.

The second substantive change is to reduce the number of times an election notice must be published. This would not effect elections concerning the issuance of revenue bonds. However, for all other elections it would reduce the number of times an election notice must be published from three times to one time.

All other proposed changes to the statute merely clarify the intent or make the wording more consistent with other statutes.

This bill is supported by Johnson County Water District No. 1 and was sponsored by Representative Fox on behalf of the Johnson County legislative delegation. This bill met with no opposition within the House.