

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATION AND ELECTIONS.

The meeting was called to order by the Chair, Carol Dawson, at 9:00 a.m. on January 26, 1995 in Room 521-S of the Capitol.

All members were present:

Committee staff present: Carolyn Rampey, Legislative Research Department
Dennis Hodgins, Legislative Research Department
Arden Ensley, Revisor of Statutes
Donna Lutjohann, Committee Secretary

Conferees appearing before the committee: Brad Bryant, Deputy Assistant Secretary of State
Marc Wilson, Kansas Student Votes Coalition
Debra Leib, Kansas Common Cause
Martha Gabehart, Commission on Disability Concerns
Jane Rhys, Council on Developmental Disabilities

Others attending: See attached list

Chairman Dawson recognized Brad Bryant, Deputy Assistant Secretary of State, and asked him to continue the briefing on the National Voter Registration Act of 1993. Mr. Bryant explained to the Committee that any convicted felon would lose their right to vote, but would be reinstated as the law permits. Proposed purging requirements will not remove any name from a voter registration list because they did not vote for two elections as is the current procedure. Purging voter registrations lists will still be able to be maintained as in the event of a death. He briefed the Committee on the motor voter aspect as to the exemption of agencies having to remain open for the purpose of voter registration. He also noted the desire and the approval of electronic transfer between the Division of Motor Vehicles and the election offices to minimize paperwork and cost. He explained that each agency will budget for their own expenses in regard to agency-based voter registrations. A copy of the fiscal note was made available to the Committee. See Attachment 1.

The public hearing on HB 2079 regarding the National Voter Registration Act of 1993 was opened by Chairman Dawson.

She recognized Marc Wilson as a proponent of the bill. He explained the current difficulties that college students have in the attempt to vote while away from home. See Attachment 2 for his written testimony.

The Chairman recognized Debra Leib as a proponent of the bill. Ms. Leib testified that passage of this bill would ease some obstacles that keep people from voting. See Attachment 3 for further discussion.

Chairman Dawson recognized Martha Gabehart as a proponent of the bill. She stated that the Commission on Disability Concerns is supportive of this legislation because it increases the opportunity for people with disabilities to participate in the voting process. See Attachment 4 for further discussion.

Jane Rhys was recognized by Chairman Dawson as a proponent of the bill. She testified that her organization supports the bill but requested it be amended. The amendment suggested would change the word "disabilities" to "restrictions" when referencing convicted felons. See Attachment 5 for written testimony.

Chairman Dawson recessed the public hearing on HB 2079 until the next meeting. Announcements were made and she adjourned the meeting at 10:28 a.m.

The next meeting is scheduled for Friday, January 27, 1995, at 9:00 a.m. in Room 521-S of the Capitol.

**GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATION AND ELECTIONS
COMMITTEE GUEST LIST**

DATE: January 26, 1995

NAME	REPRESENTING
Kathy Mastrooks	Ark City Leadership
Jodynda Oleson	Leadership A.C.
Lucille Parli	KSBA Visually Impaired
Jan Ray	KS Council on Dev. Disabilities
Richard Caldwell	Leadership Ark City
Maitha Kyabekwa	KCDC
Monique O'Brien	KACTL
Colleen Burer	Ark City Office
John W. Smith	KDOR DMV
Betty McBride	KDOR - DMV
Dennis Wilson	ARK CITY LEADERSHIP
Jim Hough	Leadership Ark City
Robert Van Horn	KNEA
Connie Stewart	KS AFL - CIO
Edward Rome	League of Women Voters / KS
Janet A. Child	S.O.S.
Cherie Hanning	KDHE
David Stevens	KSUC
Mac Wilson	KSUC

Brad Bryant

Sec of State

Ron Thornburgh
Secretary of State



2nd Floor, State Capitol
300 S.W. 10th Ave.
Topeka, KS 66612-1594
(913) 296-2236

STATE OF KANSAS

January 19, 1995

Ms. Gloria Timmer
Director of the Budget
State Capitol, Room 152-E
Topeka, Kansas 66612

Dear Ms. Timmer:

We have been asked to submit a fiscal note describing the impact of HB 2079.

This bill enacts the 1993 National Voter Registration Act.

First-year estimated costs for the Secretary of State's office are \$76,500. First-year estimated costs for counties are \$887,500. First-year estimated costs for other state agencies are \$631,251. These costs are detailed in the attached documents and are based upon the following assumptions:

- the state pays for first-year start up costs and continuing annual costs for affected state agencies.
- each state agency budgets and secures funding for itself.
- the state pays for counties' first-year start up costs.
- the counties pay for the continuing annual costs attributed to increased registration, including postage, personnel, printing and ballot preparation, among other administrative expenses.
- the plan is for a computerized, automated transfer of motor voter data.

HOUSE GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATION
AND ELECTIONS
January 26, 1995
Attachment 1

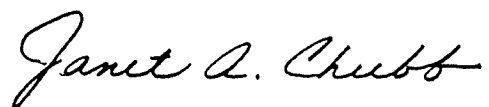
Corporations (913) 296-4564
FAX (913) 296-4570

Elections (913) 296-4561
Administration (913) 296-2236
FAX (913) 291-3051

UCC (913) 296-3650
FAX (913) 296-3659

Please do not hesitate to contact this office if we may be of any further assistance.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Janet A. Chubb".

JANET A. CHUBB
Assistant Secretary of State

sss

**National Voter Registration Act of 1993
Budget Estimates
January 17, 1995**

	Implementation Costs	Annual Costs
County Costs		
State funding is sought for certain first-year costs associated with the electronic transfer of data to county election officers. No funding is being sought for county annual costs.		
a. PC Software Software to receive and process motor-voter data from DMV.	\$40,000	0
b. Computer/Communication Hardware PC/Modem/Laser printer/Communication software, installation and support. To process and print captured motor-voter data from DMV onto 5" x 8" cards at each of 105 locations.	\$367,500	0
c. PC Support on System 36/400 (Licensing fees) Software that resides on System 36 or 400 to allow communication with the PC. Fees vary depending on whether the county already has PC support software and how many users are licensed for PC support.	\$105,000	0
d. Computer programming to upload/download data between PC and System 36 or 400 Provides for the integration of captured DMV data into the current voter registration file. Each county will determine how to combine the records. Some will manually re-enter the data, however, most will want to acquire software that will automatically assign information such as ward and precinct, check for duplication and allow for edit screens.	\$200,000	0
e. File Cabinets To accommodate 5" x 8" cards for active records.	\$175,000	0
County Total	\$887,500	0
 NOTE: State Agency Costs	 \$707,751	 \$759,283
Each state agency will prepare its own budget and request its own appropriations. The state estimates were provided in December of 1993. See exhibit attached.		

Office of the Secretary of State
 County Budget Estimate for
 National Voter Registration
 1/18/95

	File Cabinets	Computer Programming	PC Support	Grand Total
Allen	\$900.00	\$500.00	\$0.00	\$1,400.00
Anderson	\$150.00	\$400.00	\$900.00	\$1,450.00
Atchison	\$955.70	\$400.00	\$0.00	\$1,355.70
Barber	\$500.00	\$750.00	\$1,000.00	\$2,250.00
Barton	\$0.00	\$4,000.00	\$500.00	\$4,500.00
Bourbon	\$550.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,500.00	\$3,050.00
Brown	\$842.00	\$400.00	\$900.00	\$2,142.00
Butler	\$1,300.00	\$3,000.00	\$1,000.00	\$5,300.00
Chase	\$300.00	\$400.00	\$900.00	\$1,600.00
Chautauqua	\$500.00	\$400.00	\$900.00	\$1,800.00
Cherokee	\$450.00	\$800.00	\$500.00	\$1,750.00
Cheyenne	\$100.00	\$0.00	\$900.00	\$1,000.00
Clark	\$300.00	\$0.00	\$600.00	\$900.00
Clay	\$275.00	\$1,000.00	\$100.00	\$1,375.00
Cloud	\$500.00	\$0.00	\$600.00	\$1,100.00
Coffey	\$800.00	\$500.00	\$500.00	\$1,800.00
Comanche	\$120.00	\$0.00	\$240.00	\$360.00
Cowley	\$750.00	\$250.00	\$0.00	\$1,000.00
Crawford	\$0.00	\$800.00	\$0.00	\$800.00
Decatur	\$100.00	\$400.00	\$0.00	\$500.00
Dickinson	\$400.00	\$0.00	\$3,500.00	\$3,900.00
Doniphan	\$120.00	\$400.00	\$0.00	\$520.00
Douglas	\$150.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$150.00
Edwards	\$290.00	\$475.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,765.00
Elk	\$250.00	\$400.00	\$900.00	\$1,550.00
Ellis	\$3,200.00	\$2,000.00	\$0.00	\$5,200.00
Ellsworth	\$300.00	\$400.00	\$0.00	\$700.00
Finney	\$1,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,000.00
Ford	\$356.45	\$500.00	\$400.00	\$1,256.45
Franklin	\$800.00	\$400.00	\$900.00	\$2,100.00
Geary	\$500.00	\$400.00	\$0.00	\$900.00
Gove	\$140.00	\$750.00	\$2,000.00	\$2,890.00

	File Cabinets	Computer Programming	PC Support	Grand Total
Graham	\$250.00	\$1,000.00	\$0.00	\$1,250.00
Grant	\$500.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$500.00
Gray	\$303.80	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$303.80
Greely	\$350.00	\$400.00	\$900.00	\$1,650.00
Greenwood	\$420.00	\$2,000.00	\$1,000.00	\$3,420.00
Hamilton	\$200.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$200.00
Harper	\$150.00	\$1,200.00	\$0.00	\$1,350.00
Harvey				\$0.00
Haskell	\$350.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$350.00
Hodgeman	\$100.00	\$400.00	\$900.00	\$1,400.00
Jackson	\$300.00	\$400.00	\$0.00	\$700.00
Jefferson	\$955.70	\$0.00	\$1,370.00	\$2,325.70
Jewell	\$600.00	\$400.00	\$900.00	\$1,900.00
Johnson	\$36,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$36,000.00
Kearny	\$750.00	\$0.00	\$4,000.00	\$4,750.00
Kingman	\$189.00	\$3,000.00	\$500.00	\$3,689.00
Kiowa	\$43.99	\$400.00	\$0.00	\$443.99
Labette	\$4,000.00	\$600.00		\$4,600.00
Lane	\$0.00	\$150.00	\$554.00	\$704.00
Leavenworth	\$750.00	\$400.00	\$900.00	\$2,050.00
Lincoln	\$250.00	\$400.00	\$0.00	\$650.00
Linn	\$300.00	\$400.00	\$0.00	\$700.00
Logan	\$70.00	\$400.00	\$900.00	\$1,370.00
Lyon	\$2,000.00	\$600.00	\$0.00	\$2,600.00
Marion	\$0.00	\$1,500.00	\$2,500.00	\$4,000.00
Marshall	\$604.50	\$400.00	\$0.00	\$1,004.50
McPherson	\$800.00	\$400.00	\$0.00	\$1,200.00
Meade	\$150.00	\$400.00	\$900.00	\$1,450.00
Miami	\$2,000.00	\$3,700.00	\$0.00	\$5,700.00
Mitchell	\$0.00	\$1,000.00	\$0.00	\$1,000.00
Montgomery	\$5,500.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$5,500.00
Morris	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Morton	\$500.00	\$600.00	\$0.00	\$1,100.00
Nemaha	\$225.00	\$400.00	\$1,900.00	\$2,525.00
Neosho	\$956.00	\$400.00	\$900.00	\$2,256.00
Ness	\$100.00	\$750.00	\$0.00	\$850.00
Norton	\$274.00	\$750.00	\$0.00	\$1,024.00

	File Cabinets	Computer Programming	PC Support	Grand Total
Osage	\$800.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,500.00	\$3,300.00
Osborne	\$600.00	\$400.00	\$0.00	\$1,000.00
Ottawa	\$150.00	\$1,000.00	\$0.00	\$1,150.00
Pawnee	\$700.00	\$1,000.00	\$0.00	\$1,700.00
Phillips	\$0.00	\$400.00	\$0.00	\$400.00
Pottawatomie	\$500.00	\$2,000.00	\$500.00	\$3,000.00
Pratt	\$600.00	\$400.00	\$0.00	\$1,000.00
Rawlins	\$850.00	\$0.00	\$500.00	\$1,350.00
Reno				\$0.00
Republic	\$100.00	\$500.00	\$0.00	\$600.00
Rice	\$250.00	\$750.00	\$1,000.00	\$2,000.00
Riley	\$660.00	\$400.00	\$0.00	\$1,060.00
Rooks	\$750.00	\$750.00	\$1,000.00	\$2,500.00
Rush	\$1,600.00	\$1,000.00	\$0.00	\$2,600.00
Russell	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00
Saline	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Scott	\$50.00	\$400.00	\$0.00	\$450.00
Sedgwick	\$46,800.00	\$116,500.00	\$43,700.00	\$207,000.00
Seward	\$206.00	\$400.00	\$0.00	\$606.00
Shawnee	\$18,000.00	\$7,000.00	\$0.00	\$25,000.00
Sheridan	\$85.00	\$400.00	\$0.00	\$485.00
Sherman	\$69.00	\$400.00	\$900.00	\$1,369.00
Smith	\$1,000.00	\$750.00	\$1,000.00	\$2,750.00
Stafford	\$0.00	\$750.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,750.00
Stanton	\$300.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$300.00
Stevens	\$250.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$250.00
Sumner	\$1,000.00	\$4,000.00	\$1,000.00	\$6,000.00
Thomas	\$220.00	\$500.00	\$500.00	\$1,220.00
Trego	\$205.35	\$400.00	\$0.00	\$605.35
Wabaunsee	\$0.00	\$400.00	\$900.00	\$1,300.00
Wallace	\$500.00	\$400.00	\$900.00	\$1,800.00
Washington	\$275.00	\$1,000.00	\$150.00	\$1,425.00
Wichita	\$55.00	\$400.00	\$0.00	\$455.00
Wilson	\$400.00	\$400.00	\$0.00	\$800.00
Woodson	\$50.00	\$400.00	\$0.00	\$450.00
Wyandotte	\$20,000.00	\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00	\$40,000.00
TOTAL	\$173,866.49	\$197,275.00	\$104,414.00	\$475,555.49

Figures provided by counties to the Secretary of State's Office, November 1994 - January 1995.

Office of the Secretary of State
NVRA Advisory Panel
Implementation Estimates
 Estimates provided in December of 1993

Agency	Date	Estimate	Annual
KS. House of Rep. Office of Minority Leader	12/15/93	\$0	\$0
KS. Human Rights Commission	12/15/93	\$101,188	\$92,345
KS. Division of the Budget		NR	NR
Sedgwick County Election Commissioner		NR	NR
KS. Department of Health & Environment	11/29/93	\$0	\$0
KS. Department of Human Resources	11/29/93	\$605	\$520
Office of Senator Robert Dole		NR	NR
KS. County Treasurers Association		NR	NR
U.S. Postal Service		NR	NR
KS. House of Representatives Office of the Speaker		NR	NR
KS. Senate, Office of the Minority Leader		NR	NR
Office of Senator Nancy Kassebaum		NR	NR
Office of Representative Jim Slattery		NR	NR
ADA State Coordinator	12/6/93	\$0	\$0
Kansas Department of Revenue	12/8/93	\$25,058	\$153,316
Division of Information Systems and Communications		NR	NR
Kansas Secretary of State	12/8/93	\$76,500	\$96,500
Social and Rehabilitation Services	12/27/93	\$449,900	\$383,387
Kansas Department on Aging	12/15/93	\$500	\$2,215
Kansas Senate Office of the President		NR	NR
County Treasurers	12/6/93	\$54,000	\$31,000
Advisory Panel Totals		\$707,751	\$759,283

Rev 3/14/94

NR=No Response

STATE OF KANSAS



DIVISION OF THE BUDGET
Room 152-E
State Capitol Building
Topeka, Kansas 66612-1504
(913) 296-2436
FAX (913) 296-0231

Bill Graves
Governor

Gloria M. Timmer
Director

January 25, 1995

The Honorable Carol Dawson, Chairperson
House Committee on Governmental Organization and Elections
Statehouse, Room 171-W
Topeka, Kansas 66612

Dear Representative Dawson:

SUBJECT: Fiscal Note for HB 2079 by House Committee on
Governmental Organization and Elections

In accordance with KSA 75-3715a, the following fiscal note concerning HB 2079 is respectfully submitted to your committee.

HB 2079 would name the Secretary of State as the Chief Election Official and allow the Secretary of State to amend state election regulations to comply with the National Voter Registration Act. HB 2079 would define "voter registration agencies" to include any office in the state that provides public assistance, services to persons with disabilities, or that has been designated by the chief state election official as a voter registration agency.

The Division of Motor Vehicles would be specifically required to provide for the registration of voters. Applications for driver's licenses and nondriver identification cards would be required to serve as an application for voter registration, unless the voter fails to sign the voter registration application. Voter registration agencies and the Division of Motor Vehicles would be required to transmit completed voter registration applications to county election officers within five days of acceptance. The county election officers would be required to notify the applicants by mail as to the disposition of the applications. Voter registration agencies and the Division of Motor Vehicles would be required to maintain declination forms, confirmation notices, and confirmation responses for two years.

The bill would change the procedures for challenging ballots and providing for provisional ballots and would not allow individuals convicted of a felony to vote until after their discharge from parole. The penalty for the false submission of a

The Honorable Carol Dawson, Chairperson
January 25, 1995
Page 2

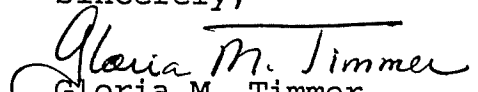
voter registration application would be subject to a maximum sentence of 17 months in prison.

Provisions of HB 2079 could have a fiscal impact on counties and state agencies that become state voter registration agencies. Provisions of the bill that require individual agencies to transmit voter registrations to county election officers within five days of acceptance, and those provisions that require state voter registration agencies to store these data, could result in some costs to those agencies involved. Specifically, HB 2079 requires that state voter registration agencies maintain files with those applications in which a person has declined to register to vote.

The Division of Motor Vehicles of the Department of Revenue has already implemented some procedures for registering voters and reports that the fiscal effect of provisions of HB 2079 would be negligible. There is no way to assess the volume of voter registration information that would be handled by other state agencies which could be designated at state voter registration agencies. The Secretary of State's Office conducted a survey of those state agencies that might also be designated as state voter registration agencies. The survey was designed to gather cost information on HB 2079. Storage costs and computer expenses totaled \$653,651. The Secretary of State also surveyed Kansas' counties. That survey indicated that passage of HB 2079 could result in implementation costs to the 105 counties of \$941,500.

As the estimates vary significantly among agencies and counties with similar circumstances, it is likely that some respondents have overlooked necessary expenditures and that some have overestimated costs. Further, Section 11 of HB 2079 suggests that any costs associated with registration provisions of HB 2079 are to be borne by the counties, cities or state agencies that incur those costs. The Division of the Budget submits that until the differences of cost estimates between similar counties and agencies can be reconciled, no accurate estimate of the fiscal impact of HB 2079 can be made. Any expenditures associated with this bill would be in addition to amounts contained in *The FY 1996 Governor's Budget Report*.

Sincerely,


Gloria M. Timmer
Director of the Budget

cc: Janet Chubb, Secretary of State
Brandon Myers, Human Rights
Sid Snider, Human Resources
J. G. Scott, SRS
Lyndon Drew, Aging
Kansas Association of Counties
Kansas League of Municipalities

Office of the Secretary of State
 NVRA Advisory Panel
 Implementation Estimates
 Estimates provided in December of 1993

Agency	Date	Estimate	Annual
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Sedgwick County Election Commissioner		NR	NR
KS. Department of Health & Environment	11/29/93	\$0	\$0
KS. Department of Human Resources	11/29/93	\$605	\$520
Office of Senator Robert Dole		NR	NR
KS. County Treasurers Association		NR	NR
U.S. Postal Service		NR	NR
KS. House of Representatives Office of the Speaker		NR	NR
KS. Senate, Office of the Minority Leader		NR	NR
Office of Senator Nancy Kassebaum		NR	NR
Office of Representative Jim Slattery		NR	NR
ADA State Coordinator	12/6/93	\$0	\$0
Kansas Department of Revenue	12/8/93	\$25,058	\$153,316
Division of Information Systems and Communications		NR	NR
Kansas Secretary of State	12/8/93	\$76,500	\$96,500
Social and Rehabilitation Services	12/27/93	\$449,900	\$383,387
Kansas Department on Aging	12/15/93	\$500	\$2,215
Kansas Senate Office of the President		NR	NR
County Treasurers	12/6/93	\$54,000	\$31,000
Advisory Panel Totals		\$707,751	\$759,283

#

43,816

32,600

NR=No Response

21,852



Kansas Student Votes Coalition

"A Grassroots Coalition for the Strengthening of Democracy"

KSVC, 400 Kansas Union, Box K, Lawrence, KS 66045 (913)864-3710 fx: (913)864-5041

Chairperson

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Emporia State University
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To: The Honorable Carol Dawson, Chairperson
Kansas House of Representatives Committee on
Governmental Organization and Elections

From: Marc S. Wilson, Legislative Director
Kansas Student Votes Coalition

Date: 26 January 1995

Re: House Bill 2079

My name is Marc Wilson, and I am the Legislative Director of the Kansas Student Votes Coalition (KSVC). The KSVC is a statewide, non-partisan coalition of Kansas college and university students who have organized because they are concerned about low rates of voter registration and participation, especially amongst the youngest of eligible voters. The KSVC has active organizations at all the state's Regents universities and is expanding into the state's community colleges. Currently, the KSVC represents approximately 80,000 students.

The KSVC stands in firm support of Kansas' compliance with the National Voter Registration Act of 1993 (NVRA). Because the ultimate goal of the NVRA is to increase registration access and convenience to the entire population, we feel this to be a positive step toward alleviating the cynicism and frustration that has recently characterized our democracy. However, while we support reforms like motor voter, fail-safe voting, and agency registration, we feel that this legislation could be even more effective in its mission by seeking out the population with the lowest turnout rates (and perhaps the most cynicism)--the youngest of eligible voters.

The political attitudes of young people of voting age are nothing short of alarming, as a recent survey conducted by the University of California at Los Angeles emphasizes. Questionnaires given to 237,777 students at 461 of the nation's two- and four-year colleges and universities found that only 16% said they discussed politics with any regularity, and less than a third thought that keeping up with political affairs was at all important.

A study by the Kettering Foundation and a separate survey by the Boston Globe found that over half of college students

HOUSE GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATION
AND ELECTIONS
January 26, 1995 Attachment 2

believe that “meaningful social change cannot be achieved through traditional American politics.” What exactly do students consider meaningful change? Meaningful change to a university student is to have accessible voter registration since he or she moves at least twice, if not three times, a year. Meaningful change is to have a centralized polling place on campus so that one does not have to find a brand new one every election day, with little time (and no transportation) to spare.

The fact is that this bill will not go far enough as regards young voters. Motor voter reaches citizens when they are 16, which means that they are two years into college before they are presented with another opportunity to register through this mechanism. The fail-safe procedures apply only to voters who move within the county, and most students live in different counties, making it necessary to re-register every time they move. And agency based registration procedures usually don't apply to students because only a very few are on public assistance. While we urge this committee to pass H.B.. 2079, we also encourage you to, in the future, consider these problems. By presenting a bill that would deal with these issues, we are hoping to give you this opportunity.

The members of the KSVC understand the many considerations that need to be made with H.B. 2079, but we feel none should override this--passage of this bill will result in more people having the opportunity to vote on election day, and citizens will be better able to have their voices heard. This is something of which everyone should be in favor. We wish you the best of luck in your deliberations and in overcoming the complicated administrative matters that need to be addressed before passage.

Thank you, Madam Chairperson, for the opportunity to testify.

**Committee on Governmental Organization and Elections
Kansas House of Representatives**

Testimony on H.B. 2079

Debra R. Leib, Executive Director
Kansas Common Cause

January 26, 1995

Madam Chair and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on House Bill 2079 which would bring Kansas into compliance with the National Voter Registration Act of 1993.

As you may know, easing voter registration requirements has long been an important state issue for Common Cause with the primary objective to broaden citizen participation in the electoral process. We fully support the National Voter Registration Act and the efforts on the part of the Secretary of State's office to comply with this law. Kansas Common Cause has in the past opposed, and will continue to oppose, any registration procedure which unnecessarily limits citizen access to the voting booth.

The most fundamental right in our society is the right to vote. Although the Constitution provides that this right may not be denied or abridged, state and local governments throughout our nation's history have devised legal constraints which have effectively disenfranchised individuals and groups. While Kansas has never imposed blatant discriminatory practices, obstacles to voting and voter registration persist. The only justification for any registration procedure should be prevention of electoral fraud and abuse.

In states that currently utilize same-day registration, the least obstructive registration procedure, there is no evidence of increased voter fraud. Rather, these states rank among the highest in voter participation in the country.

It is this goal -- citizen participation and access to the polls -- which should be the primary concern of the chief election officer of any state. Our Secretary of State acknowledged this responsibility on Tuesday. We believe all election officials should use the full extent of their powers to aggressively extend the right to vote to every eligible citizen. We find it particularly disheartening that the Secretary of State would void present efforts to ease current registration requirements if the new Congress opts to repeal NVRA.

We urge this Committee to act favorably on this and all legislation which grants Kansans greater access to the electoral process.

HOUSE GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATION
AND ELECTIONS
January 26, 1995
Attachment 3



Kansas Department of Human Resources

VOICE
(913) 296-1722
TTY
(913) 296-5044
FAX
(913) 296-1984

COMMISSION ON DISABILITY CONCERNS
1430 S.W. Topeka Boulevard
Topeka, Kansas 66612-1877

TOLL FREE
OUTSIDE TOPEKA
1-800-295-5232 (KCDC)
ADA INFORMATION
CENTER (BBS)
(913) 296-6529

TESTIMONY GIVEN ON HB 2079
to HOUSE COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATION
AND ELECTIONS
by MARTHA K. GABEHART, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
on JANUARY 26-27, 1995

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of HB 2079, the bill in implement the National Voter Registration Act (NVRA) of 1993.

The Kansas Commission on Disability Concerns (KCDC) is in support of implementation of the NVRA, because it increases the opportunities for people with disabilities to register to vote and participate in the voting process.

Traditionally, the majority of people with disabilities are not educated about voting and how to register. NVRA provides an opportunity to people with disabilities applying for services to register and get information on voting. Although registration sites are not required to perform thorough education on the voting process, referrals can be made to the local county clerk, election commissioner or independent living center for more information on how to vote.

We have read the bill and support it with two minor changes. Lines 706 and 716 use the term "disabilities" to refer to the limitations or restrictions imposed on convicted felons. This is confusing when the term is used to refer to physical and mental disabilities in other areas of the act. KCDC proposes changing the term "disabilities" to "restrictions" in lines 706 and 716 for the sake of clarity.

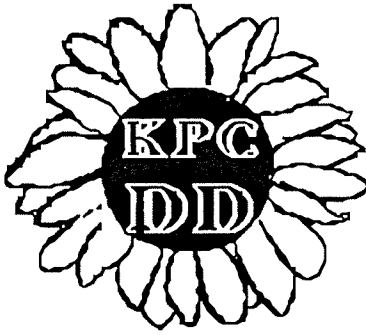
The fiscal impact of implementing NVRA in our offices would be small. The only cost would be that of staff time to ask a few simple

HOUSE GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATION
AND ELECTIONS
January 26, 1995
Attachment 4

Testimony on HB 2079
Given by Martha Gabehart
January 26-27, 1995
Page 2

questions, check the card or cards and mail them in postage paid envelopes to the election office.

In conclusion the Kansas Commission on Disability Concerns encourages passage of HB 2079. If you have any questions, I would be happy to try to answer them.



Kansas Council on Developmental Disabilities

BILL GRAVES, Governor
WENDELL LEWIS, Chairperson
JANE RHYS, Executive Director

Docking State Off. Bldg., Room 141, 915 Harrison
Topeka, KS 66612-1570
Phone (913) 296-2608, FAX (913) 296-2861

"To ensure the opportunity to make choices regarding participation in society and quality of life for individuals with developmental disabilities"

GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATION AND ELECTIONS

January 26, 1995

Testimony in Regard to H. B. 2079, AN ACT RELATING TO ELECTIONS.

To ensure the opportunity to make choices regarding participation in society and quality of life for individuals with developmental disabilities.

Mr. Chairman, Members of the Committee, I am appearing today on behalf of the Kansas Planning Council on Developmental Disabilities in support of H.B. 2079, relating to elections.

The Kansas Council is a federally mandated, federally funded council composed of individuals who are appointed by the Governor. Nine of the fifteen members are individuals with developmental disabilities or their immediate relatives. Council members also include representatives of the major agencies who provide services for individuals with developmental disabilities.

We wish to support this bill which we believe will increase the opportunities for individuals with developmental disabilities in Kansas to register to vote and participate in the voting process. Many individuals with disabilities are not educated in their rights regarding voting, how to register, and where to vote. The National Voter Registration Act (NVRA) of 1993 provides an opportunity for individuals with disabilities who are seeking other services to also register and receive information on voting. In this time when only a small number of individuals vote, we believe that everything possible should be done to encourage registering. This bill will get information to a frequently overlooked group of individuals.

The Council supports the bill but requests two modest changes: Lines 706 and 716 use the term "Disabilities" in reference to the limitations placed on convicted felons. We believe that this is confusing in a document that also uses the term in reference to individuals with physical and/or mental disabilities. We

HOUSE GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATION
AND ELECTIONS

January 26, 1995 Attachment 5

respectfully suggest that the term “disabilities” in lines 706 and 716 be changed to “restrictions” when it is used in reference to convicted felons.

In summary, the Kansas Council on Developmental Disabilities support passage of HB 2079, with two minor revisions. I would be happy to respond to questions.

Jane Rhys, Executive Director
Kansas Council on Developmental Disabilities
Docking State Office Building, Room 141
915 SW Harrison
Topeka, KS 66612-1570
913 296-2608

KANSAS VOTER REGISTRATION APPLICATION

You Can Use This Application to:

- register to vote in Kansas
- change your name or your address on your registration
- affiliate with a political party or change your party affiliation

To Register to Vote You Must:

- be a U. S. citizen
- be a resident of the State of Kansas
- have reached the age of eighteen (18) years before the next statewide general election
- have your civil rights restored if convicted of a felony
- have abandoned your former residence and/or other name.

How to Register to Vote:

- Return your completed application to your county. County addresses are on the back of this application.
- Your county election officer will mail you a notice when your application has been processed.

Important:

- This application must be postmarked by the 15th day before an election in order to be eligible to be registered in that election.

If you are completing this application at a voter registration agency, and you decline to register to vote, that fact will remain confidential and will be used for voter registration purposes only. Also, the name of the agency will remain confidential.

For further information contact the
Office of the Secretary of State, 1-800-262-VOTE (8683) V/ TTY

Please print in black or blue ink.

KANSAS VOTER REGISTRATION APPLICATION

Last Name	First Name	Middle Name or Initial	Jr. Sr. III IV
Residence Address		Street or Rural Route	Apt. # City Zip Code
Mailing Address <small>If residence address is not a permissible postal address, give mailing address of residence.</small>			
County Where You Live		Daytime Phone Number	Social Security Number (Optional)
Date of Birth / / <small>Month Day Year</small>		Male <input type="checkbox"/> Female <input type="checkbox"/>	Today's Date / / <small>Month Day Year</small>
Party Affiliation - Choose One: <input type="checkbox"/> Democrat <input type="checkbox"/> Republican <input type="checkbox"/> Libertarian <input type="checkbox"/> Not affiliated with a party		I Swear or Affirm that → Sign Here → X • I am a citizen of the United States. • I am a Kansas resident. • I will be 18 years old before the next statewide general election. • If convicted of a felony, I have had my civil liberties restored. • I have abandoned my former residence and/or other name. • I have told the truth on this registration.	
WARNING: If you submit a false voter registration application, you may be convicted and sentenced to up to 17 months in prison.			
If Previously Registered to Vote, Please Complete this Section			
Name on Previous Registration		Previous Address, City, County and State	

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY:

Ward _____ Pct _____ School Dist _____ Member Dist _____
 Sen _____ Rep _____ CoComm _____ Sec/Twp/Rge _____

FOLD ON CENTER LINE, PEEL OFF TAPE, SEAL AND RETURN

A 1 N Iola . gton	COFFEY 110 S 6th St Rm 202 Burlington 66839	GEARY 139 E 8th St Junction City 66441	JOHNSON 2101 E Kansas City Rd Olathe 66061	MIAMI 120 S Pearl Paola 66071	PRATT 300 S Ninnescah Box 885 Pratt 67124	SHERM 813 Broac Goodlana 102
ANDERSON 100 E 4th Garnett 66032	COMANCHE 201 S New York Box 776 Coldwater 67029	GOVE PO Box 128 Lakin 67736	KEARNY 305 N Main Box 86 Lakin 67860	MITCHELL 111 S Hersey Beloit 67420	RAWLINS 607 Main Atwood 67730	SMITH 218 S Grant Smith Center 66967
ATCHISON 423 N 5th Atchison 66002	COWLEY 311 E 9th Courthouse Winfield 67156	GRAHAM 410 N Pomeroy Hill City 67642	KINGMAN 130 Spruce Kingman 67068	MONTGOMERY 217 E Myrtle Box 446 Independence 67301	RENO 206 W First Hutchinson 67501	STAFFORD 209 N Broadway St John 67576
BARBER 120 E Washington Medicine Lodge 67104	CRAWFORD PO Box 249 Girard 66743	GRANT 108 S Glenn Ulysses 67880	KIOWA 211 E Florida Greensburg 67054	MORRIS 501 W Main Council Grove 66846	REPUBLIC 1815 M St PO Box 429 Belleville 66935-0429	STANTON 201 N Main Box 190 Johnson 67855
BARTON 1400 Main Box 1089 Great Bend 67530	DECATUR 194 S Penn Box 28 Oberlin 67749	GRAY 300 S Main Box 487 Cimarron 67835	LABETTE 517 Merchant Box 387 Oswego 67356	MORTON 1025 Morton Box 1116 Elkhart 67950	RICE 101 W Commercial Lyons 67554	STEVENS 200 E 6th Hugoton 67951
BOURBON 213 S National Fort Scott 66701	DICKINSON 109 E First Box 248 Abilene 67410	GREELEY 208 Harper St Box 277 Tribune 67879	LANE 144 S Lane Box 788 Dighton 67839	NEMAHA 607 Nemaha Seneca 66538	RILEY 110 Courthouse Plaza Manhattan 66502	SUMNER Sumner Co Courthouse Wellington 67152
BROWN 601 Oregon St Hiawatha 66434	DONIPHAN PO Box 278 Troy 66087	GREENWOOD 311 N Main Box 268 Eureka 67045	LEAVENWORTH 4th & Walnut Leavenworth 66048	NEOSHO 100 S Main Box 138 Erie 66733	ROOKS 115 N Walnut Stockton 67669	THOMAS 300 N Court Colby 67701
BUTLER 205 W Central El Dorado 67042	DOUGLAS 1100 Massachusetts St Lawrence 66044	HAMILTON 291 N Main Box Y Syracuse 67878	LINCOLN Courthouse Lincoln 67455	NESS 202 W Sycamore Ness City 67560	RUSH 715 Elm Box 220 LaCrosse 67548	TREGO 216 Main WaKeeney 67672
CHASE Courthouse Square Cottonwood Falls 66845	EDWARDS 312 Massachusetts Kinsley 67547	HARPER County Courthouse Anthony 67003	LINN 315 Main Box 350 Mound City 66056	NORTON PO Box 70 Norton 67654	RUSSELL 401 Main PO Box 113 Russell 67665	WABAUNSEE 215 Kansas Alma 66401
CHAUTAUQUA 215 N Chautauqua Sedan 67361	ELK 127 N Pine PO Box 606 Howard 67349	HARVEY 8th & Main Box 687 Newton 67114	LOGAN 710 W 2nd Oakley 67748	OSAGE 717 Topeka Avenue Lyndon 66451	SALINE 300 W Ash Salina 67401	WALLACE 313 N Main Box 70 Sharon Springs 67758
CHEROKEE 100 W Maple PO Box 14 Columbus 66725	ELLIS 1204 Fort St Box 720 Hays 67601	HASKELL 300 Inman Box 518 Sublette 67877	LYON 402 Commercial Emporia 66801	OSBORNE 423 W Main Courthouse Osborne 67473	SCOTT 303 Court Courthouse Scott City 67871	WASHINGTON 214 C St Courthouse Washington 66968
CHEYENNE 212 E Washington St Francis 67756	ELLSWORTH 210 N Kansas Ellsworth 67439	HODGEMAN 500 Main Jetmore 67854	MARION Third & Courthouse Sq Marion 66861	OTTAWA 307 N Concord Ste 130 Minneapolis 67467	SEDGWICK 510 N Main Wichita 67203-3798	WICHITA 206 S 4th Drawer 968 Leoti 67861
CLARK 913 Highland St Box 886 Ashland 67831-0886	FINNEY 425 N 8th Box M Garden City 67846	JACKSON Courthouse Holton 66436	MARSHALL 1201 Broadway Marysville 66508	PAWNEE 715 Broadway Larned 67550	SEWARD 415 N Washington Liberal 67901	WILSON 615 Madison Fredonia 66736
CLAY 712 Fifth PO Box 98 Clay Center 67432	FORD 100 Gunsmoke Dodge City 67801	JEFFERSON PO Box 321 Oskaloosa 66066	MCPHERSON Kansas & Maple McPherson 67460	PHILLIPS 301 State St Phillipsburg 67661	SHAWNEE 911 SW 37th Ste A Topeka 66611	WOODSON 105 W Rutledge Yates Center 66783
CLOUD 811 Washington Concordia 66901	FRANKLIN 315 S Main Ottawa 66067	JEWELL 307 N Commercial Mankato 66956	MEADE 200 N Fowler Box 278 Meade 67864	POTTAWATOMIE 106 Main Box 187 Westmoreland 66549	SHERIDAN PO Box 899 Hoxie 67740	WYANDOTTE 9400 State Ave Kansas City 66112

RON THORNBURGH
Secretary of State
2nd Floor, State Capitol
Topeka, KS 66612-1594

Post Office Will Not Deliver Without Postage
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COUNTY ELECTION OFFICER

KS

KANSAS APPLICATION FOR VOTER REGISTRATION

Name SAMPLE Date / /
(PLEASE PRINT) (LAST) (FIRST) (MIDDLE NAME OR INITIAL) Month / Day / Year

Residence Address _____
(STREET OR RURAL ROUTE) (APT#) (CITY) (ZIP)

Mailing Address _____ Date Residence Established / /
If residence address given is not a permissible postal address, give mailing address of residence. Month / Day / Year

County _____ Soc. Sec. No. _____
(OPTIONAL)

Date of Birth / / Male Female Naturalization Data (If Any) _____ Daytime Phone () _____
Month / Day / Year (If Available)

Name Used at Last Residence _____
Name under which applicant last registered or voted, if different from present name.

Last Voting Residence _____
Residence at time of last registration or voting.

POLITICAL AFFILIATION MAY BE DECLARED.
 IF DESIRED, CHECK APPROPRIATE BOX.

DEMOCRAT
 REPUBLICAN
 LIBERTARIAN

"I do solemnly affirm the above information is true and correct. I am a citizen of the United States and the State of Kansas and I will have reached the age of eighteen (18) years of age before the next statewide general election. If convicted of a felony, I have my civil liberties restored. If applicable, I have abandoned my former residence and/or other name."

X _____
(Signed by applicant under penalty of perjury) K.S.A. 25-2309

OFFICE USE ONLY:
 Ward _____ Pct _____ School Dist _____ Member Dist _____ Sec/Twp/Rge _____
 Sen _____ Rep _____ CoComm _____