

Dorothy Barnett
Climate + Energy Project
SB 365
Oppose – Written only



Chairman Thompson and Members of the Committee, thank you for giving me time to share my thoughts on SB 365 with you today. My name is Dorothy Barnett and I direct a statewide nonpartisan nonprofit, the Climate + Energy Project. As part of this work, CEP facilitates the WEALTH (Water, Energy, Air, Land, Transportation and Health) State Table.

The Kansas WEALTH State Table is made up of eleven state-wide organizations. The Table organizes and advocates for policy, personal, and social change with the goal of equitable decarbonization to create a just and resilient Kansas, with a focus on engaging communities most impacted by climate disruption. Each year the table sets policy priorities, including the following for 2024:

1. Connect Kansans to available IRA and other federal funding
- 2. Defend voting rights and encourage robust civic participation**
3. Support energy efficiency and distributed generation policy and initiatives
4. Defend against misinformation and disinformation campaigns
5. Support a fully staffed State Energy Office and comprehensive State Energy Plan
6. Support water conservation and management of Kansas water resources
7. Support Farm Bill education and outreach
8. Support utility data transparency

As you can see, our second priority requires us to defend voting rights and encourage robust civic participation. SB 365 would severely limit Kansans ability to have their vote count, through no fault of their own. The 3-day grace period is imperative for all the voters in Kansas who utilize their right to use a mail in ballot. At a time when we should be making it easier for Kansans to participate in representative democracy, this bill would have a chilling effect on civic participation.

Thank you for taking time to read through my testimony, please **vote no on SB 365**.