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SB 365

WRITTEN ONLY

OPPONENT

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Kansas Farmers Union, Executive Director

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 Nick Levendofsky and I am a voter in Republic County. I am writing today to encourage the committee to vote no on SB365.

Kansas Farmers Union supports protecting and strengthening voting rights and expanding ways to make voting easier, which includes voting by mail.

Advanced voting in Kansas is safe, secure, and has been popularly used by Kansans for decades. 41% of Kansans voted by advanced ballot in the 2022 election, and 1 in 3 Kansans voted by mail in 2020. Restricting mail in voting could seriously impede citizens' ability to vote for no good reason.

There is strong bipartisan support for keeping the three day grace period. For the last few years, abolishing the 3 day grace period after election day has faced strong bipartisan opposition because legislators of both parties want to ensure that citizens with slower mail delivery, such as rural voters, get their vote counted too. These bills could make election administration more difficult; which is why local election officials have opposed these types of restrictions.

These bills are the government punishing citizens for shortcomings of the government. Rural voters especially have longer mail delivery times and often don't have easy access to in person early voting options. Voters shouldn't be disenfranchised because they are guilty of having slow mail that is provided by the government.

Thank you for the opportunity to share KFU's thoughts on this bill. We encourage you all to vote no on SB 365.