HB2020 Written Only Neutral Testimony

Chairman Proctor and Members of the Committee,

By identifying and removing noncitizens from voter rolls, **HB2020 seeks to prevent illegal voting and uphold the principle of "one person, one vote."** This is a fundamental safeguard that every citizen should demand to ensure the integrity of our elections.

The bill also enhances state-level oversight of voter registration by requiring systematic checks against DMV records. This provision aims to ensure that only eligible citizens are registered to vote, helping to maintain the integrity of Kansas elections. These measures are positive steps that many citizens have long advocated for.

However, I believe the bill needs to address additional critical items to be fully effective and legally sound:

- Lack of Deadline for SOS Comparison: The proposed change to the existing statute does not specify a deadline for the Secretary of State (SOS) to complete the comparison process. This omission could lead to delays and inefficiencies. A specific timeframe should be established to ensure timely and efficient execution of these responsibilities by the SOS office.
- Timing of Notifications: Another concern is the timing of notifications. If the DMV provides the list for the quarter ending September 30th, the SOS may process these notifications just weeks before the general election in early November. This raises the question of whether voters who are removed close to an election will have enough time to rectify their registration. If not, this could lead to disenfranchisement and potential legal challenges. The bill should ensure timely notification and provide sufficient time for voters to respond before an election.
- Compliance with the National Voter Registration Act (NVRA): It is crucial that the bill aligns with federal laws like the NVRA, which aims to make voter registration accessible while maintaining accurate voter rolls. The implementation must ensure that the process does not inadvertently disenfranchise eligible voters or contradict federal standards.
- **Inclusion of Safeguards**: To prevent potential disenfranchisement, the bill should include safeguards ensuring that the process of removing noncitizens from voter rolls is fair, transparent, and legally compliant. This will help minimize errors and protect the voting rights of eligible citizens.

By addressing these concerns, HB2020 can more effectively uphold the integrity of our elections while ensuring compliance with federal law and safeguarding the rights of all eligible voters. I urge the committee to consider these issues carefully and make the necessary adjustments to the bill. I am in favor of passing this bill out of committee only if these potential issues are adequately addressed.

Thank you for your consideration of my comments.

Kari Sue Vosburgh Sedgwick County Precinct Committeewoman