SCOTT SCHWAB Secretary of State



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## STATE OF KANSAS

January 28, 2025

## **Testimony on HB2018 (Oral Neutral)**

House Committee on Elections Submitted: Monday, January 27, 2025

Chair Proctor and members of the Committee:

The Secretary has no objection or concern with waiving the residency and registered voter criteria for otherwise qualified active-duty members, their spouses, and other dependents to serve as election Judges and clerks.

The Secretary requests that Section 1 (a) of the bill be amended to state:

Neither the secretary of state nor any No county election officer shall disqualify an individual . . ."

Only county election officers may appoint election judges and clerks. KSA 25-2801. The Secretary has no role in the appointment process, and no authority to issue regulations. The Secretary wants to ensure that there is no possibility of interpreting the bill as granting that authority.

Respectfully,

Clayton Barker

Clayton L. Barker Deputy Secretary of State, General Counsel <u>Clay.Barker2@ks.gov</u>