

SB 6 Opposition Testimony (Written-Only)

Testimony to the House Committee on Elections

NAME: Joseph Nicholas

TITLE: Private Citizen

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BILL NUMBER: SB 6

PROPONENT, OPPONENT, or NEUTRAL: Opponent

ORAL or WRITTEN ONLY TESTIMONY: Written Only

DATE OF HEARING: February 27, 2025

My name is Joe Nicholas; I am a constituent from Leawood, 66206.

I am writing to urge you to oppose Senate Bill No. 6, which would ban the use of ranked-choice voting (RCV) in Kansas elections. This bill unnecessarily restricts local election authorities and removes a tool that can empower voters, improve representation, and promote majority-supported outcomes.

Ranked-choice voting is a method that allows voters to express their preferences more fully, ensuring that elected officials have broad public support. It reduces the chances of “spoiler” candidates distorting elections and encourages more positive, issue-focused campaigns rather than divisive, winner-takes-all politics.

Several cities and states across the country have successfully implemented RCV, leading to increased voter satisfaction and engagement. Kansas should not close the door on this option before it has been given due consideration. Instead of banning RCV outright, lawmakers should allow local jurisdictions the flexibility to explore and adopt election methods that best serve their communities.

I believe in empowering voters and local governments, not restricting them. I strongly urge you to vote **against** Senate Bill No. 6 and support policies that strengthen, rather than limit, our democratic process.

Chairperson Proctor and members of the committee,

Thank you for your time and consideration. I would appreciate knowing your position on this issue and look forward to your response.

Sincerely,

Joseph Nicholas

