

February 27<sup>th</sup>, 2025

House Committee on Elections  
State Capitol  
300 SW 10<sup>th</sup> Street  
Topeka, KS 66612

**Re: Health Forward Foundation opposition to Senate Bill 6 – Prohibiting the use of ranked-choice voting methods for conducting elections.**

Chair Proctor and Members of the Committee:

On behalf of Health Forward Foundation (Health Forward), I submit this letter of testimony in opposition to Senate Bill 6. Health Forward works to support and build inclusive, powerful, and healthy communities characterized by economically just systems. We oppose this legislation as it would ban the use of ranked-choice voting, a method of elections that has been shown to have a number of benefits for citizens and the democratic process.

Polls consistently find that 80% or more of Americans feel the democratic system in the United States is [under threat](#). Health Forward encourages this committee to keep the door open for potential election reforms, such as ranked-choice voting, in the future. Ranked-choice voting is already in use in other states and municipalities. In Alaska, ranked-choice voting was adopted in 2020, was implemented in 2022, and reaffirmed in 2024. Alaska's experience with ranked-choice voting has been [well received](#), as most voters said it was simple and they supported it.

Further, we are living in an era of stark political polarization. We need to consider alternatives that empower the people and facilitate the election of candidates that reflect the will of the people. One of the benefits of ranked-choice voting is that it [increases voter participation](#) and allows voters to elect candidates that have broad support. This method allows voters to rank all candidates instead of only voting for one, which gives voters the opportunity to [more meaningfully express](#) their preferences.

Health Forward asks legislators on this committee to vote no on SB 6. We would instead encourage further exploration of ranked-choice voting as a viable alternative for Kansas elections. Please feel free to contact me at [cstites@healthforward.org](mailto:cstites@healthforward.org) if you have any questions or would like additional information.

Respectfully,

Cori Stites, MSW  
Impact Strategist – Power  
Health Forward Foundation

**OUR  
PURPOSE**

*Every day we work to support and build inclusive, powerful, and healthy communities characterized by racial equity and economically just systems.*