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Testimony of Kansas Attorney General Kris Kobach Proponent for SB 2 Senate Ways and Means Feb. 11, 2025

Chair Billinger and Members of the Committee:

The Kansas Attorney General's Office supports this bill. The law as it currently stands required me to enforce the law as written and hold that the Greeley County bond election did not qualify under Kansas law. The law is strict, and it is not my job to change it. That would be an abuse of power.

Only the legislature can change the law or provide a waiver to any county, and by declining to enforce it, lawmakers are exercising their authority to do so.

Kansas lawmakers passed SB 221 into law last legislative session. As adopted, the law requires that a "notice of election shall also be published on the website of the county election office of any county where the election is to be conducted. Such notice shall be published not less than 21 days prior to the election and shall remain on the website until the day after the election." The law also prescribes items that the notice must include specifics such as the time and place for holding the election and the purpose for which the bonds are to be used.

Normally, these deficiencies would be caught by the county's bond attorneys, but unfortunately, that didn't happen. Because the voters of Greeley County had adequate notice of the subject of the bond election, I urge your support of SB 2.