

SESSION OF 2025

SUPPLEMENTAL NOTE ON SENATE BILL NO. 6

As Recommended by Senate Committee on
Federal and State Affairs

Brief*

SB 6 would prohibit any form of ranked-choice voting (RCV) methods from being used in determining the election or nomination of any candidate to any federal, state, county, or other municipal elected office.

The bill would define “ranked-choice voting” to mean a form of voting that allows voters to rank two or more candidates in order of preference. Votes are tabulated in multiple rounds, where the lowest vote-receiving candidate is eliminated after each round until a candidate receives the majority of the votes cast.

The bill would declare null and void any ordinance, resolution, or regulation prohibited by the bill and adopted before July 1, 2025.

Background

The bill was introduced by the Senate Committee on Federal and State Affairs at the request of Senator Thompson.

Senate Committee on Federal and State Affairs

In the Senate Committee hearing, **proponent** testimony was provided by a representative of the Opportunity Solutions

*Supplemental notes are prepared by the Legislative Research Department and do not express legislative intent. The supplemental note and fiscal note for this bill may be accessed on the Internet at <https://klrd.gov/>

Project. The proponent stated that RCV complicates elections and jeopardizes public confidence in the process.

Written-only proponent testimony was provided by representatives of the Association of Mature American Citizens Action, Election Transparency Initiative, Heritage Action for American, and Honest Elections Project Action and by four private citizens.

Opponent testimony was provided by a former member of the Virginia House of Delegates and three private citizens. The opponents generally stated that RCV can be a useful tool and could ensure majority rule.

Written-only opponent testimony was provided by representatives of the American Civil Liberties Union of Kansas, Campaign Legal Center, League of Kansas Municipalities, League of Women Voters of Kansas, and Loud Light Civic Action, and by 11 private citizens.

Neutral testimony was provided by a representative of the Office of the Secretary of State, who indicated that KSA 25-702 mandates plurality voting and that no Kansas county currently has the capability to conduct an RCV election.

[*Note:* According to testimony, elimination of candidates based on preference often is done electronically.]

No other testimony was provided.

Fiscal Information

According to the fiscal note prepared by the Division of the Budget on the bill, the Secretary of State and the Kansas Association of Counties indicate that enactment of the bill would not have a fiscal effect.

Elections; ranked-choice voting