

ALLEN COUNTY COURTHOUSE

Sherrie L. Riebel
COUNTY CLERK

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February 15, 2012

To: Senate Committee on Ethics and Elections

Re: Testimony on Senate Bill 388

From: Sherrie L. Riebel, Allen County Clerk

Honorable Chair and Members of the Committee:

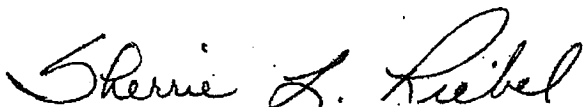
Thank you for the opportunity to testify in opposition to Senate Bill 388.

I know during the SAFE Task Force Committee meetings, of which I was a participant, we discussed the Secretary of State working on updating training manuals to review and teach at the Kansas County Clerk's and Election Officials Conference in May, 2012. We will then go back to our respective counties with training ideas. We work well with the Secretary of State's office and respect the suggestions to update and educate our board workers. In return the SOS has also been very considerate at listening to our needs and requests to aid us in training our board workers. I feel the education and hands on training are adequately addressed without this legislation. I have faith in the Secretary of State's Office to do the ample training Kansas County Clerk's and Election Officials need to hold efficient and lawful elections.

I also think if board workers failed the required testing it would be too late to find replacements in counties with such a small pools to choose from. Allen County would like to be able to teach and train our board workers without **required** testing. Currently we have 1 to 4 training classes depending on the size of the election. My classes usually run around 2 to 2 ½ hours covering election requirements, changes and equipment. I feel this is effective training for our workers.

I urge the committee to report Senate Bill 388 as unfavorable. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Sherrie L. Riebel
Allen County Clerk