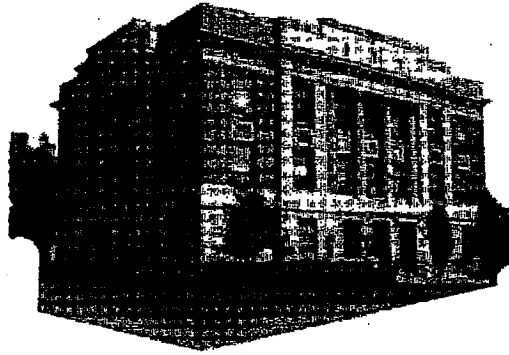


# NORTON COUNTY, KANSAS



## NORTON, KANSAS

Testimony submitted by Norton County Clerk and Election Officer  
Robert D. Wyatt

March 12, 2012

Re: Testimony on House Bill 2437

Madam Chair and Members of the Committee:

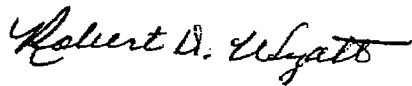
Thank you for the opportunity to provide written testimony in support of House Bill No. 2437. As we move forward in the implementation of the SAFE act I would like to ask for your consideration and support of HB2437.

To ask for proof of citizenship when registering, and proof of ID with a "photo ID" at the polls is really a very secure and sound method to protect our voting and registration laws. The SAFE act along with HB 2437 will provide County Election Officers the information needed to help ensure a solid registration process for qualified voters within the State of Kansas.

With 2012 being an election year and a year in which voter registration will increase in Kansas it only makes sense to have the proof of citizenship requirement be moved to June 15<sup>th</sup>, 2012. Understanding proof of citizenship only applies to new citizens and those moving from another state or country, as the HB reads "newly registered Kansas voter". I believe the implementation of HB 2437 will allow County Clerks and Election Officers to complete training without delay and confusion. This is our opportunity to move forward with the educational process to the voter and allows us to remove the risk of confusion that may take place if the current citizenship date scheduled for January 2013 remains.

I would respectfully ask that you support HB 2437, giving County Election Officers the opportunity to move forward in our educational process as well as aligning our implementation dates.

Respectfully,



Robert D. Wyatt

Norton County Election Officer and County Clerk