

**KRIS W. KOBACH**  
Secretary of State



Memorial Hall, 1st Floor  
120 S.W. 10th Avenue  
Topeka, KS 66612-1594  
(785) 296-4564

## STATE OF KANSAS

Before the Committee on Judiciary

**Kansas Secretary of State Testimony for HB 2164**

**Kansas Secretary of State Kris Kobach**  
**February 11, 2013**

Chairman Kinzer and members of the committee, I am Kris Kobach, Kansas Secretary of State. Thank you for the opportunity to testify on behalf of HB 2164, an act concerning jurors.

One of the predominant ways that prospective jurors are selected is from the list of registered voters. When a prospective juror receives a notice of jury duty, they may inform the jury commissioner of potential reasons they are not qualified to be a juror. One such reason is that the prospective juror is not a United States citizen. I support HB 2164 as it would require a jury commissioner to provide my office with a list of those individuals who provide information disqualifying themselves from jury duty and the reason. My office would then check the list of individuals disqualified from jury service for not being citizens against the voter rolls. As a non-citizen is not eligible to vote, my office would use this information to remove these ineligible individuals from the voter rolls. This bill would provide another valuable tool in the efforts to ensure secure and fair elections. Similar measures have proved valuable in Texas and Florida.

One member of the committee has asked what type of information my office would require from jury commissioners. To be able to accurately check the information against the voter rolls we would need at least the following: first, middle, and last name; date of birth; address; last 4 digits of the Social Security number if available, and the reason the individual was disqualified from jury duty. These are the minimum requirements and I would prefer that HB 2164 continue with the current proposed language that allows my office to approve the form and manner of information transmitted. This approach enables timely adjustments to take advantage of newly available data fields. This could help with speed and efficiency of the cross checking process.

In conclusion I encourage the passage of HB 2164. This bill would facilitate the flow of information across state government helping to ensure that Kansas remains the model for the nation when it comes to secure and fair elections.