



**Testimony before Senate Ethics, Elections & Local Government Committee  
SB 211 – Local election date change  
Mike O’Neal, President & CEO, Kansas Chamber**

**March 13, 2013**

Chairman Pyle and members of the Committee:

The Kansas Chamber appreciates the opportunity to provide written testimony in support of the provisions of SB 211 dealing with moving local government elections from the spring of odd-numbered years to the fall of even-numbered years to coincide with national, state and county elections. The bill also contains ballot efficiencies we support. Our support comes from the cost savings and efficiencies in streamlining the election process across all levels of local government.

The Kansas Chamber supports efforts to streamline government and reduce the costs to taxpayers. With regard to both primary and general elections there will be savings to the counties of hundreds of thousands of dollars every two years, with savings coming from reduction in the number of ballot styles, combining local elections on ballots with national, state and county races and eliminating elections for political party precinct committee positions.

Thank you for your consideration.



*The Kansas Chamber, with headquarters in Topeka, is the leading statewide pro-business advocacy group moving Kansas towards becoming the best state in America to do business. The Chamber represents small, medium and large employers all across Kansas.*