

Office of County Clerk

Labette County

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County Clerk Peggy Minor

Deputy Clerk Gena Landis

Accounts **Payable** Lorrie Boulware

Elections Becky Czapansky

Since 1867

March 11, 2015

To:

House Committee on Elections

Re:

Testimony on Senate Bill 171

From: Peggy Minor, Labette County Clerk

Honorable Chair and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in opposition to Senate Bill 171.

By moving the spring election to coincide with the other federal, state, and local elections Labette and many jurisdictions will have to print two separate page ballots to include all the races. With Labette being a paper ballot county this will drastically affect us. Longer ballots will cause more voter and poll worker confusion, longer voting time and longer waiting lines at the polls. A lot of voters have an allotted amount of time to vote, such as voting before work, during lunch and after work, if they are unable to complete the ballot in their allotted time a lot issues will be left unvoted.

This is just one of the many reasons why I would prefer not changing spring elections to the fall of even-numbered years. Mail ballot elections might be a consideration if you are intending to increase voter turnout.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Peggy Minor

Labette County Clerk