



“Small Town, Big Dreams”

THE CITY OF NEODESHA • P.O. BOX 336 • NEODESHA, KANSAS 66757

February 10, 2015

Sen. Mitch Holmes, Senate Ethics and Elections Committee
State Capitol Building
10th & Jackson, Room: 237-E
Topeka KS 66612

RE: SB171

Senator Mitch Holmes and Honorable members of the Ethics and Elections Committee:

On behalf of the City of Neodesha I would like to speak in opposition of Senate Bill 171 and ask that you consider not moving this bill forward.

First, we have a small Commission of three members, each who have three year staggered terms. One term expiring each year. To move the elections to even years only would cause our City to completely change our form of government and our terms that have worked so well in our community for many many years.

Second, we are totally opposed to a partisan election. Our field of candidates is narrow enough some years as it is. To make it partisan would narrow that field even more causing a hardship for our community. To restrict active military personnel from running in our elections removes some of the most qualified people from participating in serving our community. They can serve our country but not our community?

Third, we appreciate having our elections separate from the November elections. It puts our issues and candidates to the forefront for our citizens and does not bury them in the midst of political activity or partisan issues in which we feel should not distract from our local needs.

Your consideration as to how this would effect communities all across our State is greatly appreciated. I know your jobs are not easy ones and truly your service to our State is a sacrifice not taken lightly.

Thank you.

Sincerely,
City of Neodesha

Bobby Busch
Finance Director/City Clerk

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