

State of Kansas
House of Representatives

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Blake Carpenter
Representative, 81st District

Elections Committee

Proponent Testimony for HB2223

Chairman and members of the committee, I came up with this bill idea at the end of the committee about two weeks ago. After speaking to someone at the Ethics Commission about their policy, I felt like there was a need to add more accountability and transparency to the process. This bill will make it so that any candidate who files their finance report late will need to pay a fee. There is a grace period of 48 hours or two days after the deadline to file the finance report before the fees start. Once the fees begin, it will be \$500 per day until the individual files their finance report. We must trust that everyone who runs for office has enough responsibility to submit their reports on time. Whenever someone doesn't submit their report on time right before an election that is extremely unfair to the candidate who is playing by the rules and filed their report on time. This is also unfair to the citizens and media personnel who look at our reports before the election.

I will be bringing an amendment if we do decide to work this bill. The change will allow the Ethics Commission to determine whether to waive the fee for different circumstances.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Blake Carpenter".

Representative Blake Carpenter

District 81