

March 15, 2017
Testimony in Support of SB78

House Committee on Elections

Honorable Chair – Keith Esau
Vice Chair – Blake Carpenter
Ranking Member– Vic Miller
Honorable Committee Members

Good morning Mister Chair and other esteemed Representatives of the Committee.

Thank you for the opportunity to speak in support of bill number 78: Elections; voting place changes; written notice to affected voters; emergency exception.

Mister Chair, On November 8th 2016, voting day for the presidential election, I received calls from registered voters in my district starting at 6:40 AM complaining that voting machines were down at precinct 109 where I vote. I also received complaints from individuals from another voting location. These voters normally would vote at the Center for Health and Wellness/ Healthcore located in my district on 21st near Wichita State University. They were asking me where to vote. The location had changed and they were not notified.

I do understand that some notices were mailed to voters. However, not all voters received them. Some individuals who lived nearby and walked to Healthcore did not get to vote that day because they did not have transportation to get to the other location. I am simply asking that notification be sent to voters 30 days prior to an election and a sign be posted on former polling locations stating the new locations.

Sincerely,

Senator Oletha Faust-Goudeau