

STATE OF KANSAS
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COMMITTEES
CHAIRMAN, TRANSPORTATION
& PUBLIC SAFETY BUDGET
APPROPRIATIONS
COMMERCE, LABOR &
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
JOINT COMMITTEE ON
STATE BUILDING CONSTRUCTION

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HB 2006

HB 2006 changes the method of filling vacancies arising from the expansion of a county commission from a gubernatorial appointment to a special election. This change was requested by the governor after the expansion of the Saline County Commission in the 2014 election from three to five members. After drawing the new districts, the governor accepted applications and selected two qualified candidates to fill the vacancies for two years until the next election.

Though I personally supported the individuals selected by the governor, the people of the new districts deserved an opportunity to vote for their representatives. The amount of time an individual is serving unelected is two full years and no single individual should have the power to select 40 percent of the commission serving a county. The cost of a special election is small and would take place rarely as very few counties are of a size to contemplate an expansion of their commission.

Please support HB 2006 to give our citizens the right to vote for their representatives.