



February 22, 2021

The Honorable Blake Carpenter  
Chairman, Kansas House Elections Committee  
Room 218-N  
Kansas Capitol  
Topeka, Kansas

RE: House Bill 2326, an act concerning elections; regarding precinct committeemen and committeewomen; requiring reporting of certain information to the county clerk.

Dear Chairman Carpenter and Members of the Elections Committee,

I write as a proponent of House Bill 2326.

Under current law, precinct committee people are not required to provide phone numbers or email addresses to county clerks when they file for office, and county clerks are not required to disclose to party officials this information if they receive it. The absence of such requirements has created an obstacle to effective communication between party officers and many precinct committee people across our state. This obstacle is most notable when, in accordance with Kansas law, party conventions must be called to fill a vacancy caused by a death or resignation of an elected official.

Precinct committee people not only make up the vital human infrastructure of our political parties in Kansas, but they also fulfill this important statutory duty. Modern forms of communication require a modernization of our election laws. Under House Bill 2326, the existing requirement for a mailing address when filing as a precinct committee person would merely be updated to include more preferred and more commonly used methods of communication in the form of a phone number and email address. It would not create any new requirement that would serve as a barrier to entry for someone seeking the position of precinct committee person. It would help increase civic engagement and streamline important party communications vital to ensuring our state government best serves the people of Kansas.

I appreciate the opportunity to offer my support for House Bill 2326 and encourage each of you to support this commonsense legislation.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Michael J. Kuckelman". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Michael J. Kuckelman  
Chairman, Kansas Republican Party