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Written Testimony - Opponent
Senate Bill 391
Senate Committee on Federal & State Affairs
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Chairman Olson, members of the Committee, thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in opposition of Senate Bill 391.

Kansas NEA believes that a strong representative democracy can only be achieved when every eligible citizen has easy access to voting. To that end, we oppose Senate Bill 391.

Once again, this is a bill in search of a problem. Voters already have the ability to conduct their own independent research on each candidate appearing on the ballot prior to participating in any election in Kansas. We should be wanting to do more to encourage an informed electorate; yet this bill encourages voters to make their decision based only the information provided on the ballot.

Furthermore, why stop at just years of service for the incumbent? There is other pertinent information about an incumbent or a challenger that could be deemed equally as important to publish on a ballot.

In other words, we believe this bill creates a slippery slope for additional information to be published on ballots that should otherwise be researched independently by the voter before they vote. This will ultimately taint the election process.

As such, we urge members of the committee to oppose Senate Bill 391.