

March 7, 2023

Testimony to the House Elections Committee

NAME: Mary Coffman

TITLE: Kansas Resident

EMAIL ADDRESS: maryo.coffman@icloud.com

BILL NUMBER: SB 208, removal of ballot boxes

PROPONENT, OPPONENT, or NEUTRAL: Opponent

ORAL or WRITTEN ONLY TESTIMONY: Written

Dear Chair & members of the committee,

I am writing to voice my opposition to bill SB 208.

Drop boxes are necessary to ensure that all voters have an opportunity to vote. They give voters who could not otherwise vote at the polls a convenient way to cast their votes.

Due to the current delays in our USPS mail service many voters are reluctant to send their ballots by mail. This is an issue in both rural and urban areas of Kansas. Drop boxes provide voters with the certainty that their vote will be counted.

I mailed a letter to a friend in Ft. Worth on Feb. 13th. She has still not received the letter. This is a perfect example why we cannot depend on mail in ballots and drop boxes are necessary so that everyone's vote is counted.

Over 14,000 Johnson County residents voted using drop boxes in 2022. If this bill is passed these individuals maybe denied the right to vote.

Please support the recommendation of the Kansas Secretary of State and the majority of Kansans and vote not on bill SB 208.

Mary Coffman

Kansas Citizen

Overland Park, Kansas