

Date: January 18, 2023
HR6004, Hearing in the House Committee on Rules and Journal
Robert Wood, Kansas citizen
Neutral on HR6004, opposing change to rule 2707, with written testimony, available for
oral testimony
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I am Robert Wood, from Pittsburg. I am a long-time activist defending the rights of the people of this State and our Constitution.

Honorable Chairman Patton and members of the House Committee on Rules and Journal, I am neutral on HR6004, but I oppose change to Rule 2707 for several reasons.

The Kansas Constitution in Article 2, Section 13 requires, "Two-thirds (2/3) of the members then elected (or appointed) and qualified in each house, voting in the affirmative, shall be necessary to ratify any amendment to the Constitution of the United States or to make any application for congress to call a convention for proposing amendments to the Constitution of the United States."

Our Kansas Constitution is the supreme law of this State and this section was amended into and can only be repealed through an amendment process that requires the vote of the people. For the Kansas House to believe they can overrule this section with a simple majority rule change is repugnant and completely dismisses the will of the people of this State and our supreme law. What stops the legislature from simply dismissing the entire Kansas Bill of Rights with a simple majority vote rule change?

Overruling this section of the Constitution with a rule change is extremely dangerous because it allows other issues to be amended into our Kansas Constitution like abortion and gun control by others in the legislature with only a simple majority and not the required 2/3rds. It also leaves out the will and the votes of the people of this State.

Stop this dangerous and unprecedented action now.

I urge you to vote against change to rule 2707.

Thank you for your consideration of my testimony.