

March 16, 2023

HB2086

Opponent

Chairman Thompson and Members of the Committee,

I am writing to you all today to urge you to oppose HB2086. It appears to me that this bill removes the ability of Kansas counties to conduct their own elections and centralizes power in one person, the Secretary of State. Committee members, although we live in times of more and more centralized power, I do not think it is not a trend we should go along with.

I have also heard that this bill amends the statute regarding the use of ballots to agree with the Rules & Regulations which were written by the current Secretary of State's office to allow for the use of ballot images. This is problematic as there have been recorded demonstrations of election machine hacks which can change the ballot images and selections and thus alter an election's outcome. Any recounts should be done with actual ballots, and not merely the images of these ballots. Codifying the use of ballot images instead of the ballots themselves is quite dangerous in my opinion.

Seth Graber

Lenexa, KS