

2/3/2023

SB 365

Written Only

Opponent

Hayley Spellman

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Private Citizen

Thank you to Chairman Thomas and Members of the Committee for allowing me to share my thoughts on SB 365. My name is Hayley Spellman, and I am a voter in Johnson County. I am writing to urge the committee members to vote no on SB 365.

As a former teacher who is passionate about bringing more voices to the voting booth, I am a strong advocate for making voting as accessible as possible. SB 365 would harm that accessibility, as limiting voting by mail access would block hundreds, if not thousands, of Kansans' voices to be heard. Voting by mail is an exceptionally popular tool utilized by Kansas voters, as nearly a third of Kansans voted by mail in previous elections. Additionally, even if a voter does mail their ballot on time, unforeseen circumstances, such as a slower postal delivery, would impede the voting rights of folks all across Kansas— but especially rural Kansans. A three day grace period, as our current election law permits, protects the voting rights of Kansans and ensures a more democratic voting process.

As there is bipartisan support on keeping a three day grace period, I encourage you all to vote no on the passage of SB 365. Thank you for hearing my thoughts on this bill and protecting voting accessibility in Kansas.