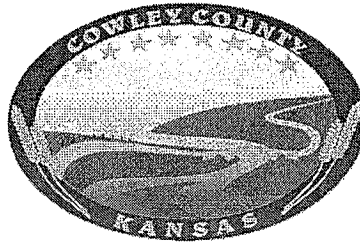


Karen D. Defore
Cowley County Clerk
kdefore@cowleycounty.org



Amy Scott
Deputy County Clerk
ascott@cowleycounty.org

311 E. 9th
Winfield KS 67156
(620)221-5400 (Winfield)
(620)441-4500 (Arkansas City)
Fax (620)221-5498

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of House Bill 2227, regarding moving the current spring elections to August and November of odd numbered years.

As Cowley County Clerk I also serve as the Election Officer with a staff of four including myself. Cowley County population is 36,311. With a consistent timing of elections, every year in August and November, the voters in Kansas can become accustomed to elections the same time every year. The cost moving the election to the fall of odd years will have no impact on the cost since it will not require combining state or national elections with local school elections that cross precinct and county line. We can simply change the date and not the method.

Combining the City/School Election to odd numbered years will give us the opportunity to try to increase voter participation without adding additional costs.

Thank you for your consideration in this matter

Karen D. Defore
Cowley County Clerk/Election Officer