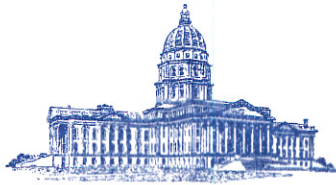


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February 7, 2017

Testimony in Support of SB78

Senate Committee on Ethics, Elections and Local Government

Honorable Chair – Elain Bowers

Vice Chair – Steve Fitzgerald

Ranking Member– Oletha Faust-Goudeau

Honorable Committee Members

Good morning Madam Chair and other esteemed Senators of the Committee.

Thank you for the opportunity to speak in support of bill number 78: Elections; voting place changes; written notice to affected voters; emergency exception.

Madam Chair, On November 8th 2016, voting day for the presidential election, I received calls from registered voters in my district starting at 6:40 AM complaining that voting machines were down at precinct 109 where I vote. I also received complaints from individuals from another voting location. These voters normally would vote at the Center for Health and Wellness/Healthcore located in my district on 21st near Wichita State University. They were asking me where to vote. The location had changed and they were not notified.

I do understand that some notices were mailed to voters. However, not all voters received them. Some individuals who lived nearby and walked to Healthcore did not get to vote that day because they did not have transportation to get to the other location. I am simply asking that notification be sent to voters 30 days prior to an election and a sign be posted on former polling locations stating the new locations.

Sincerely,

Senator Oletha Faust-Goudeau