

SEDGWICK COUNTY, KANSAS

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January 26, 2018

Members of the Committee of Ethics, Elections and Local Government:

Sedgwick County and its Board of County Commissioners support Senate Bill 299. Under the current structure, the Election Commissioner in the larger counties in Kansas submits its budget without any sort of oversight or approval. In addition, compensation and other human resources policies do not have to be followed by the Election Commissioner. This is the only scenario in Kansas where an elected or appointed official enjoys no limitation on how much it can spend or which policies it must follow. Obviously this has potential negative ramifications which could be large.

This bill simply brings the budgetary authority under the County Commission and requires the Election Commissioner to follow county personnel policies. The Election Commissioner retains autonomy over the administration of elections.

Sedgwick County would urge your support to pass Senate Bill 299.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "David Dennis", is written over a horizontal line.

David Dennis, Chairman
Board of County Commissioners