

Office of the **County Clerk**

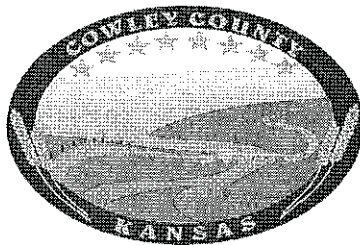
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**Karen Madison**

County Clerk and Election Officer

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**Kayla Cartlidge**

Deputy County Clerk

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March 12, 2019

Re: Senate Bill 131, Concerning Election Filing Dates & Township Officer Oaths

**Chairman Sutton and Distinguished Committee Members,**

As Cowley County Clerk and Election Officer, I thank you for your time in allowing me to submit written testimony as a proponent of this bill.

SB131 addresses two main issues. The first issue is the filing deadline for municipalities with no authorized primary. The change from September 1 to the day before the primary election is a positive change. Since UOCAVA ballots must be mailed 45 days before the election, the current September 1 deadline pushes that limit. The second issue addressed in SB131 brings consistency to the Oath of Office. Changing the deadline for township officers to file their Oath of Office to the second Monday in January when their term of office begins, not only makes it consistent with other offices but gives those elected officers time to come into the County Clerk's Office to have the Oath administered. The impact of SB131 in its current form as County Clerk and Election Officer will be a positive change with no negative fiscal impact.

I support passage of SB131 in its current form.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Karen Madison".

Karen Madison

Cowley County Clerk/Election Officer