

March 7, 2023

Testimony to the House Elections Committee

NAME: Leandra Ojeda

TITLE: Kansas Resident

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BILL NUMBER: SB 208, removal of ballot boxes

PROPONENT, OPPONENT, or NEUTRAL: Opponent

ORAL or WRITTEN ONLY TESTIMONY: WRITTEN ONLY TESTIMONY

Dear Chair & members of the committee,

I am writing to voice my opposition to bill SB 208.

My name is Leandra Ojeda and I am a resident of Garden City, Kansas, and I have recently become civically active in Western Kansas. Thanks to friends of mine who have shown me how to vote and the entire Kansas election process, I feel that SB208 should be opposed because it would make the voting and electoral process of Kansas more difficult for voters who, like me, aren't well familiar with voting and electoral laws. Not only does SB208 make voting harder to understand but it adds physical barriers such as having to drive a far distance from one's home. That may not sound like an issue to some people, but for full time workers like myself who have other obligations, I want ballot boxes to be more accessible for our voters and not harder to access. Typically through my work week, I clock in at 7am and clock out sometimes late into the afternoon, and a ballot box has been a great way for me to turn in my advance ballot. Knowing that I have access to vote via dropping off my ballot at a drop off ballot box or deciding to walk in and vote on a tabulator, I feel great that I can participate in our elections with convenience.

As a first generation American voter, I urge you all to oppose SB 208 and protect voting rights not infringe upon them.

Leandra Ojeda

Kansas Resident

Garden City, Kansas