Testimony of the Kansas Association of Counties to the Senate Committee on Ethics, Elections and Local Government Neutral Testimony for SB 43 • February 19, 2019

Madam Chair and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify regarding Senate Bill 43, which would allow for Election Day voter registration. The Kansas Association of Counties would like to thank the committee for reviewing the issue of voter registration.

Currently 16 states (California, Colorado, Connecticut, Hawaii, Idaho, Illinois, Iowa, Maine, Minnesota, Montana, New Hampshire, Utah, Vermont, Washington, Wisconsin, and Wyoming) and the District of Columbia either allow Election Day voter registration or updates, or have passed laws that will allow it. The Kansas Association of Counties supports measures that would allow citizens of Kansas to exercise their right to vote.

As the committee reviews this legislation, the committee should also consider the cost of implementation, as well as the time needed to prepare for the next election, should Election Day registration be enacted. Our county election officials work very hard to conduct elections in a secure and organized manner. We must aid them by providing enough time to plan for any changes to election law.

Please thoroughly consider these factors as you evaluate SB 43. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Respectfully

Jav Hall

Kansas Association of Counties