

8 February, 2022

Testimony of Joana Scholtz President of Leavenworth NAACP

SB 388 Requiring the use of the United States Postal Service when returning an advanced ballot by mail.

Greetings to the members of the Kansas Senate Federal and State Affairs Committee;

My name is Joana Scholtz and I am President of the NAACP Leavenworth Branch, a civil rights group representing the interest of more than 166 Members and growing. Our members have a long tradition of fighting to ensure voting access for All.

NAACP Leavenworth Branch strongly urges the committee to not support SB 388.

Limiting the return of advance ballots to using the United States Postal Service will make it harder for constituents to meet the deadlines for mail in advanced voting due to the cuts in funding and services of the United States Postal Services. Our state has no ability to affect the services of the United States Postal Service to ensure that ballots get delivered in a timely manner. Therefore, it stands to reason that we should not make voting laws that depend on services that we do not and cannot control.

SB 388 Clearly attacks our advance ballot voting system by adversely affecting our seniors 65 and older who are more likely to vote by mail for health reasons.

Thank you for your consideration of the views of the NAACP Leavenworth Branch.

Sincerely,

Joana Scholtz President