

February 23, 2021

Proponent: SB 153

Chairwoman McGinn and Senate Local Government Committee:

Thank you for your time and consideration of SB 153.

As a former County Commissioner myself, I support the passage of SB 153. Are we getting the best representation and leadership for our communities from state and local officials who run for office and are then reelected to the same position over and over again? The Ancient Greeks and Romans were some of the first organized governments to implement term limits. They believed that a change of leadership periodically is good for government. New ideas and fresh leadership on a periodic basis can be a good thing.

Term Limits

There are two main types of term limits:

1. A limit on the number of **consecutive** terms an individual can hold office.
2. A limit on the **maximum** number of terms an individual can hold a particular office during their lifetime.

Local Control

Kansas is comprised of 105 counties; each unique in its population and number of County Commissioners as provided for by K.S.A. 19-202.

I believe in limited government, and I also share the belief that government closest to the people serves the people best. With the passage of SB 153, it would ultimately be decided by the will of the voting citizens in each individual county if they wish to have term limits for their County Commissioners. Essentially, the term limit could be defined as only a limit on consecutive terms, only a limit on maximum number of terms, or a combination of both limits on consecutive and maximum number of terms served.

SB 153 does not impose term limits on County Commissioners. Instead, it allows each individual County to determine if term limits are necessary for their County. If a County does not wish to have term limits for their Board of County Commissioners, this bill does not require any action on their part.

I kindly ask for your support of SB 153.

Respectfully,



Senator, Alicia D. Straub – Dist. 33