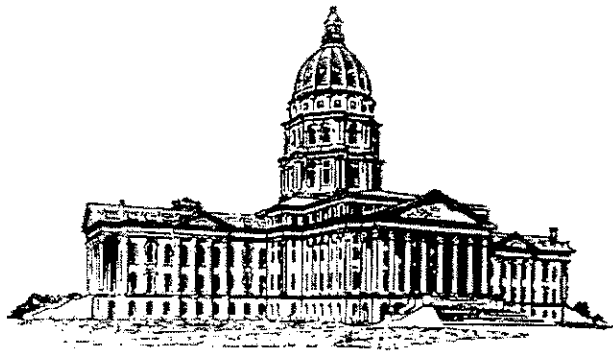


Brett Parker
Representative, 29th District

State of Kansas
House of Representatives



HB 2225 - Hearing in Elections: Monday, 2/20/2017, 1:30 PM, Rm 281-N

February 20, 2017

Chairman Esau, Vice-Chairman Carpenter and Members of the Committee:

I appear before you in support of HB 2225. If enacted the bill would modify the law so that any voter requesting an advanced ballot may choose to apply for permanent advanced voting status. Current law allows for voters who have a permanent disability or illness to apply for permanent advanced voting status.

While knocking on doors I spoke with many voters who regularly vote by advanced mail ballot for every primary and general election. Allowing a single application would provide convenience for all voting age Kansans and save our clerks the time and work of processing new applications for each election.

Though convenience for voters and clerks prompted my consideration of this bill, my primary motivation is increasing turnout. We have long known that too few Kansans vote in their local elections. Allowing those who consistently vote in even year elections to choose permanent advanced voting status will encourage them to vote in all elections, including local elections.

HB2225 reduces redundant efforts by voters and clerks, while encouraging increased turnout for all elections. I ask you to join me in supporting HB 2225.

Brett Parker
Representative, 29th District