

# State of Kansas

## Senate Chamber



PAT PETTEY

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### COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS

RANKING MINORITY: TRANSPORTATION  
MEMBER: PUBLIC HEALTH & WELFARE  
WAYS AND MEANS  
SELECT COMMITTEE ON  
EDUCATION FINANCE  
JOINT COMMITTEE: KANSAS SECURITY  
PENSIONS, INVESTMENTS  
AND BENEFITS

Chairman Bowers, members of the committee:

I am pleased to testify today on SB-105. The Kansas legislature in 2015 moved elections for office holders of local government from the spring to the fall of odd-numbered years. The first year that this legislation went into effect was with the fall elections of 2017. Unfortunately, the bill created several unintended consequences. One of those consequences was creating a lame duck period for local government officials. Prior to the change in law newly elected officials took office at the first regularly scheduled meeting. After the 2017 elections, newly elected officials did not take office until the second Monday in January.

The last year the Kansas League of Municipalities worked with their board to address this issue and I feel we have come up with legislation that allows for local units of government to decide what best fits their needs. They now have a window of time to establish a resolution for start of new terms, or it can remain the second Monday in January.

As a former commissioner with the Unified Government of Wyandotte Co/KCK I believe the sooner newly elected officials take office the better for continuity of services. This legislation is a compromise and I do support it. I want to thank the chair for her leadership, and I ask the committee to pass this legislation out favorably.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Pat Petty".

Senator Pat Petty