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## STATE OF KANSAS

**Testimony: HB2713 (Proponent – written only)**

Senate Judiciary Committee  
Wednesday, March 11, 2020

Chairman Wilborn and members of the Committee:

The Kansas Secretary of State appreciates the opportunity to offer proponent testimony on HB2713. Many of the notary statutes have been in place since the mid-1980s and this bill provides needed updates to modernize notary law in Kansas.

The bill provides guidance to notaries about their authority as a notary, what services they can provide, guidelines for accepting identification documents, and under what circumstances they should not notarize a document. The bill also provides that notaries complete a course of study and pass an examination administered or approved by the Office Secretary of State to help them better understand state law and their responsibilities as a notary.

HB2713 recognizes that technology advancements provide the ability to perform notarizations and permits remote notarizations. Nearly half of all states have enacted remote notary legislation and are at various stages of implementation.

Finally, the bill implements best practices for notaries, including requirement that notaries maintain a journal of all notarial acts and requires a notary to notify the Secretary of State's office if their stamp is lost or stolen.

On behalf of the Office of Secretary of State, we support this effort to modernize the notary statutes and provide additional resources for notaries about their responsibilities under the law.

Respectfully submitted,

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