



KANSAS
ASSOCIATION OF
COUNTIES

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House Federal and State Affairs Committee
January 15, 2021
House Concurrent Resolution 5003

Kansas Association of Counties
Neutral Testimony – Written Only

Chairman Barker and members of the Committee:

This testimony concerning HCR 5003 is focused **exclusively** on Page 2, line 21 of the resolution, specifically the date of August 2, 2022. The Kansas Association of Counties is not addressing any of the other contents of the resolution.

If this resolution is to be submitted to the electors of the state for a vote, KAC would encourage the committee to have that vote occur during the general election on November 8, 2022. All voters in Kansas have a right to vote on a constitutional question. During a primary, ballots are produced for party races. Having the vote during the August 2, 2022 primary election would require counties to produce ballots containing only the constitutional question for unaffiliated voters to use, so as to not disenfranchise those voters. This is inefficient and wasteful, as it would likely require the production of ballots that would simply be thrown away, as there is no way to predict how many unaffiliated voters will seek to vote on this question at each polling location.

This could be achieved simply by striking all language after “the electors of the state” on page 2 line 20 and the following lines, and inserting November 8, 2022.

Under the language of the Kansas Constitution, constitutional questions can be considered at general elections with no special election designation.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide this information to the committee. Please let me know if we can provide further assistance on this topic.

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