



**KANSAS**  
ASSOCIATION OF  
**COUNTIES**

715 SW 10th Avenue • Topeka, KS 66612  
785-272-2585 • [www.kansascounties.org](http://www.kansascounties.org)

Senate Federal and State Affairs Committee  
February 17, 2022  
SB 445

Kansas Association of Counties  
Opponent Testimony

Chairman Olson and members of the Committee:

Thank you for allowing the Kansas Association of Counties to offer opposition testimony on SB 445, which would effectively ban the use of ballot drop boxes in the State of Kansas, except in very limited circumstances.

Kansas counties, and particularly our elections officials, have worked to make voting in Kansas safe, accessible and reliable. Advance voting has been utilized by many Kansans through the years, whether military, college students, or other citizens who have needed to vote in advance of the election to make sure their right to vote was exercised. For those individuals, they can fill out their ballot and then either deposit it in a postal box for delivery to their election office or they can hand deliver it to the election office or a drop box. Most of those postal boxes are not manned 24 hours a day. They are accessible at all times to make it easy to deposit mail. Ballot drop boxes are essentially the same, except they do not go through the postal service.

If there is a concern that drop boxes may be destroyed or otherwise tampered with, make destruction of or tampering with a ballot drop box a felony with penalty ranges similar to the penalties imposed federally for tampering with mail. That may discourage those actions by creating criminal liability for those engaging in such behavior.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Jay Hall  
Deputy Director and General Counsel  
Kansas Association of Counties  
[hall@kansascounties.org](mailto:hall@kansascounties.org)  
(785)272-2585