

Feb. 5, 2017

VOTER Notes

Newsletter of the League of Women Voters

Two Action Alerts!

1. Stop a two-tiered voting system
2. Expand KanCare

Plus...

- a link to *Policy Watch Weekly Update*, by Paul Johnson
- LWVK Convention information

On Tuesday, Feb 7, starting at 9:30 a.m., in Room 142 S, LWVK Co-president Marge Ahrens will testify to the [Committee on Ethics, Elections and Local Government](#) regarding [SB 37 \(Short Title: Elections; voting procedures where proof of citizenship not provided.\)](#) **Stand with Marge if you can!**



Can't attend Tuesday? [Find your legislators](#). Write or call them. Let's stop the Secretary of State from creating a bifurcated (two-tiered) voting system.

Be sure to copy these committee members:

Committee Chair [Sen. Elaine Bowers](#)

Vice Chair [Sen. Steve Fitzgerald](#)

Ranking Minority Member [Sen. Oletha Faust-Goudeau](#)

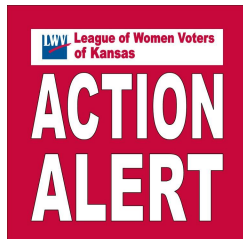
Members [Sen. John Doll](#), [Sen. David Haley](#), [Sen. Randall Hardy](#), [Sen. Mary Pilcher-Cook](#), [Sen. John Skubal](#), [Sen. Dinah Sykes](#)

[SB 37](#) is in defiance of state and federal court orders (that allow all registered voters to vote a full ballot) and an attempt to prevent voting in local and state elections by citizens using the federal form or registering at the DMV without Documentary Proof of Citizenship.

Right now, 21,000 Kansans are on the suspense list. They and additional thousands who follow would be disallowed the right to vote in local and state elections, and be entirely "cancelled" from the suspense list if this proposal becomes law.

Note these points:

1. SB 37 means that Kansans registering to vote will not be allowed to vote a full ballot unless they bring in Documentary Proof of Citizenship. (One's signature already attests to citizenship on all voter registration forms.) ***That's a hardship!***
 2. Anyone registering at the DMV or using the Federal Form will NOT be allowed to vote for state and local offices. ***Federal laws say we can!***
 3. Federal Judge Julie Robinson ordered that those persons be allowed to vote a full ballot in the 2016 general election. ***That order was to hold indefinitely!***
 4. SB 37 defies both state and federal court decisions in relation to the S.A.F.E. Act. ***The Kansas Secretary of State is overreaching!***
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Expand KanCare

Second, this week, you have several opportunities to act as the [House Health & Human Services Committee considers HB 2064](#). LWVK supports HB 2064 (Short Title: Establishing the KanCare bridge to a healthy Kansas program.)

- Monday, Feb. 6, at 1:30 p.m. in Room 112-N. The committee will hear from neutral parties with facts and figures.
- **Wednesday, Feb. 8, at 1:30 p.m. in Room 546-S. Proponents will speak.**
- Thursday, Feb. 9, 1:30 p.m. in Room 112-N. Opponents will speak.

[The Alliance for a Healthy Kansas](#) is asking everyone to attend. The goal is to outnumber opponents of this vital bill.

Can't be there in person?

Even if you've submitted testimony before, do it again. Help others connect, too. Send testimony to [Sean Gatewood](#), or [David Jordan](#).

[Find your legislators](#). Write or call them! Be sure to copy these committee members:

Chair [Rep. Daniel Hawkins](#)

Vice Chair [Rep. Susan Concannon](#)

Ranking Minority Member [Rep. John Wilson](#)

Members: [Rep. John Barker](#), [Rep. Doug Blex](#), [Rep. Steven Crum](#), [Rep. Willie Dove](#), [Rep. Ronald Ellis](#), [Rep. John Eplee](#), [Rep. Broderick Henderson](#), [Rep. Cindy Holscher](#), [Rep. Jim Kelly](#), [Rep. Greg Lakin](#), [Rep. Monica Murnan](#), [Rep. Les Osterman](#), [Rep. Randy Powell](#), [Rep. Abraham Rafie](#)



Our Eyes on the Legislature

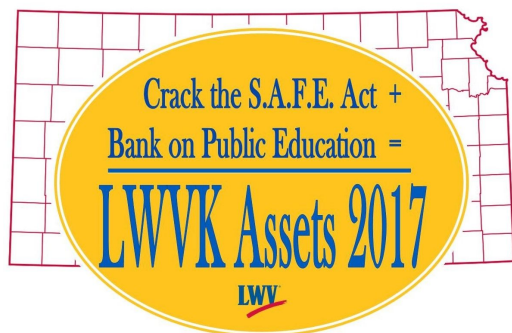
As he has for years, Paul Johnson continues to keep an eye on issues LWVK cares about. Read Paul's [report on our website](#) on Friday afternoons (generally).

Policy Watch Weekly Update is a publication of the Kansas Rural Center with sponsorship from the following: League of Women Voters of Kansas, Kansas Natural Resource Council, Audubon of Kansas, Kansas Association of Regional Development

Organizations, and Kansas Farmers Union. Friends of Policy Watch include: Women for Kansas and Flint Hills Renewable Energy and Efficiency Cooperative. Visit KRC's website

www.kansasruralcenter.org/legislative-policy-watch/

Paul Johnson may be reached at pdjohnson@centurylink.net.



LWVK 2017 State Convention

Saturday, April 29, at 9:00 a.m. Ramada Convention Center, downtown Topeka.

[Read more....](#)



The **League of Women Voters of Kansas** is a grassroots, volunteer, political organization with [nine local Leagues across the state](#). For nearly 100 years, LWVK has encouraged the informed and active participation of citizens in government and has influenced public policy through education and advocacy. The League never endorses candidates or political parties.

Support our ongoing work. [Donate to LWVK](#), today.

“VOTER Notes” Editor: [Melissa Carlson](#), 2nd VP Communications

LWVK information is available on our [website](#).

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