Session of 2007

HOUSE BILL No. 2329

By Committee on Elections and Governmental Organization

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9 AN ACT concerning elections; amending K.S.A. 25-203, 25-1115, 25-2006, 25-2007, 25-2010, 25-2018, 25-2023, 25-2102, 25-2107, 25-102108a, 25-2109, 25-2120, 25-2311, 25-2502 and 25-3503 and K.S.A. 11 12 2006 Supp. 25-1122 and repealing the existing sections. 13 14Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Kansas: 15Section 1. K.S.A. 25-203 is hereby amended to read as follows: 25-16203. (a) Except as otherwise provided in subsection (b), the primary na-17tional, state, county, city, school district and township election shall be held on the first Tuesday of August in even-numbered years for the nom-18 19ination of all candidates to be voted for at the next following general 20election. 21 (b) In the year 1992, if new boundary lines are defined and districts 22 established in the manner prescribed by law for the offices of represen-23 tative in the United States congress, senator and representative in the 24 legislature of the state of Kansas, and member of the state board of ed-25ucation, on or after June 13, 1992, the primary national, state, county and 26township election shall be held on August 25, 1992, for the nomination 27 of all candidates to be voted for at the next following general election. 28Sec. 2. K.S.A. 25-1115 is hereby amended to read as follows: 25-29 1115. (a) "General election" means the election held on the Tuesday 30 succeeding the first Monday in November of even-numbered years, the 31elections held for officers on the first Tuesday in April, and in the case 32 of special elections of any officers to fill vacancies, the election at which 33 any such officer is finally elected. 34 "Primary election" means the election held on the first Tuesday (b) 35 in August of even-numbered years, the election held five weeks preceding 36 the election on the first Tuesday in April, and any other preliminary elec-37 tion at which part of the candidates for special election to any national, 38 state, county, city or school office are eliminated by the process of the 39 election but at which no officer is finally elected. 40 Sec. 3. K.S.A. 2006 Supp. 25-1122 is hereby amended to read as 41follows: 25-1122. (a) Any registered voter may file with the county elec-42tion officer where such person is a resident, or where such person is 43 authorized by law to vote as a former precinct resident, an application for

an advance voting ballot. The signed application shall be transmitted only
 to the county election officer by personal delivery, mail, facsimile or as
 otherwise provided by law.

(b) If the registered voter is applying for an advance voting ballot to 4 be transmitted in person, and such voter is a first-time voter, such voter 5shall provide a form of valid identification such as a current and valid 6 7 Kansas driver's license, nondriver's identification card, utility bill, bank 8 statement, paycheck, government check or other government document 9 containing the voter's current name and address as indicated on the registration book. Such voter shall not be required to provide identification 10if such voter has previously provided current and valid identification in 11 12 the county where registered.

13 (c) If the registered voter is applying for an advance voting ballot to be transmitted by mail, and such voter is a first-time voter, such voter 1415shall provide on the application for an advance voting ballot the voter's 16current and valid Kansas driver's license number, nondriver's identification card number or the last four digits of the voter's social security num-1718ber, or shall provide with the application a copy of the voter's current and 19valid Kansas driver's license, nondriver's identification card, utility bill, 20bank statement, paycheck, government check or other government doc-21ument containing the voter's current name and address as indicated on 22 the registration book. Such voter shall not be required to provide iden-23 tification if such voter has previously provided current and valid identification in the county where registered. 24

25If a first-time voter is unable or refuses to provide current and (d) 26valid identification, or if the name and address do not match the voter's 27 name and address on the registration book, the voter may vote a provi-28sional ballot according to K.S.A. 25-409, and amendments thereto. The 29 voter shall provide a valid form of identification as defined in subsection 30 (c) of this section to the county election officer in person or provide a 31 copy by mail or electronic means before the meeting of the county board 32 of canvassers. At the meeting of the county board of canvassers the county 33 election officer shall present copies of identification received from pro-34 visional voters and the corresponding provisional ballots. If the county 35 board of canvassers determines that a voter's identification is valid and the provisional ballot was properly cast, the ballot shall be counted. 36

(e) Applications for advance voting ballots to be transmitted to thevoter by mail shall be filed only at the following times:

(1) For the primary election occurring on the first Tuesday in August
in even-numbered years, between April 1 of such year and the last business day of the week preceding such primary election.

42 (2) For the general election occurring on the Tuesday succeeding the43 first Monday in November in even-numbered years, between 90 days

1 prior to such election and the last business day of the week preceding 2 such general election.

3 (3) For the primary election held five weeks preceding the first Tues 4 day in April, between January 1 of the year of such election and the last

5 business day of the week preceding such primary election.

6 (4) For the general election occurring on the first Tuesday in April,
 7 between January 1 of the year of such election and the last business day
 8 of the week preceding such general election.

9 -(5) (3) For question submitted elections occurring on the date of a 10 primary or general election, the same as is provided for ballots for election 11 of officers at such election.

12 (6)(4) For question submitted elections not occurring on the date of 13 a primary or general election, between the time of the first published 14 notice thereof and the last business day of the week preceding such ques-15 tion submitted election, except that if the question submitted election is 16 held on a day other than a Tuesday, the county election officer shall 17 determine the final date for mailing of advance voting ballots, but such 18 date shall not be more than three business days before such election.

19 (7) (5) For any special election of officers, at such time as is specified 20 by the secretary of state.

(8) (6) For the presidential preference primary, between January 1
of the year in which such primary is held and the last business day of the
week preceding such primary election.

The county election officer of any county may receive applications prior to the time specified in this subsection (e) and hold such applications until the beginning of the prescribed application period. Such applications shall be treated as filed on that date.

28Unless an earlier date is designated by the county election office, (f) 29 applications for advance voting ballots transmitted to the voter in person 30 in the office of the county election officer shall be filed on the Tuesday next preceding the election and on each subsequent business day until 3132 no later than 12:00 noon on the day preceding such election. If the county 33 election officer so provides, applications for advance voting ballots transmitted to the voter in person in the office of the county election officer 34 35 also may be filed on the Saturday preceding the election. Upon receipt of any such properly executed application, the county election officer shall 36 37 deliver to the voter such ballots and instructions as are provided for in 38 this act.

An application for an advance voting ballot filed by a voter who has a temporary illness or disability or who is not proficient in reading the English language or by a person rendering assistance to such voter may be filed during the regular advance ballot application periods until the close of the polls on election day.

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In any county having a population exceeding 250,000, the county election officer may designate places other than the central county election office as satellite advance voting sites. At any satellite advance voting site, a registered voter may obtain an application for advance voting ballots, such ballots and instructions shall be delivered to the voter in the same manner and subject to the same limitations as otherwise provided by this subsection.

8 (g) Any person having a permanent disability or an illness which has 9 been diagnosed as a permanent illness is hereby authorized to make an 10 application for permanent advance voting status. Applications for per-11 manent advance voting status shall be in the form and contain such in-12 formation as is required for application for advance voting ballots and also 13 shall contain information which establishes the voter's right to permanent 14 advance voting status.

15(h) On receipt of any application filed under the provisions of this 16section, the county election officer shall prepare and maintain in such officer's office a list of the names of all persons who have filed such 1718applications, together with their correct post office address and the pre-19cinct, ward, township or voting area in which such persons claim to be 20registered voters or to be authorized by law to vote as former precinct 21residents and the present resident address of each applicant. Such names 22 and addresses shall remain so listed until the day of such election. The 23 county election officer shall maintain a separate listing of the names and addresses of persons qualifying for permanent advance voting status. All 24 such lists shall be available for inspection upon request in compliance 2526with this subsection by any registered voter during regular business hours. 27 The county election officer upon receipt of such applications shall enter 28upon a record kept by such officer the name and address of each appli-29 cant, which record shall conform to the list above required. Before in-30 spection of any advance voting ballot application list, the person desiring to make such inspection shall provide to the county election officer iden-3132 tification in the form of driver's license or other reliable identification and 33 shall sign a log book or application form maintained by such officer stating 34 such person's name and address and showing the date and time of in-35 spection. All records made by the county election officer shall be subject to public inspection, except that the voter identification information re-36 37 quired by subsections (b) and (c) and the identifying number on ballots 38 and ballot envelopes and records of such numbers shall not be made 39 public.

(i) If a person on the permanent advance voting list fails to vote in
two consecutive general elections held on the Tuesday succeeding the
first Monday in November of each even-numbered year, the county election officer may mail a notice to such voter. Such notice shall inform the

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1 voter that the voter's name will be removed from the permanent advance voting list unless the voter renews the application for permanent advance 2 3 voting status within 30 days after the notice is mailed. If the voter fails to renew such application, the county election officer shall remove the 4 voter's name from the permanent advance voting list. Failure to renew 5 the application for permanent advance voting status shall not result in 6 7 removal of the voter's name from the voter registration list. (j) For the purposes of this section, "first-time voter" means a reg-8 9 istered voter who has not previously voted in any election in the county in which the voter desires to vote. First-time voter includes a person 10whose name was removed from the county registration list in accordance 11 12with K.S.A. 25-2316c, and amendments thereto, and who has re-13 registered. (k) The secretary of state may adopt rules and regulations defining 1415valid forms of identification. 16Sec. 4. K.S.A. 25-2006 is hereby amended to read as follows: 25-2006. (a) "General election" means the election held for school officers 17on the first Tuesday in April in any odd-numbered year Monday in No-18

vember of even-numbered years, and in the case of special elections of
any school officers to fill vacancies, the election at which any such officer
is finally elected.

(b) "Primary election" means the election held five weeks preceding the election on the first Tuesday in April on the first Tuesday following the fourth Monday in August of even-numbered years, and any other preliminary election at which part of the candidates for special election to any school office are eliminated by the process of the election but at which no officer is finally elected.

Sec. 5. K.S.A. 25-2007 is hereby amended to read as follows: 25-29 2007. (a) "Question submitted election" means any election at which a 30 special question is to be voted on by the electors of the state or a part of 31 them.

(b) "County election officer" means:

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(1) The election commissioner of the home county of the school dis-trict if such county has an election commissioner,

(2) the county clerk of the home county of the school district if thecounty does not have an election commissioner,

(3) the county clerk (or the election commissioner if there is one) of the county in which all or the greater part of the population is located in the case of a nonunified school district. In the event that doubt exists concerning which public officer is the county election officer under this subpart, the secretary of state shall specify such officer and such specification shall be conclusive.

43 (c) "Filing deadline" means the hour, date or time after which it is

1 provided by law no person may become a candidate for election to public

2 office; for school elections the filing deadline is 12:00 o'clock noon on the
 3 Tuesday which precedes by 10 weeks the first Tuesday in April of any
 4 odd-numbered year November of any even-numbered year.

5 Sec. 6. K.S.A. 25-2010 is hereby amended to read as follows: 25-6 2010. Election of board members and question submitted elections shall 7 be conducted by the county election officer of the home county of the 8 school district. Board member general elections shall be held on the first

9 Tuesday in April of each odd-numbered year Monday in November of

10 even-numbered years. If a primary election is required to be held, such

11 primary election shall be held on the Tuesday preceding by five weeks

12 the first Tuesday in April of odd-numbered years first Tuesday following

13 the fourth Monday of even-numbered years.

Sec. 7. K.S.A. 25-2018 is hereby amended to read as follows: 25-2018. (a) Notices of board member elections and question submitted
elections of a school district shall be made as provided in this section.

(b) On or before January 15, the county election officer shall publish
a notice of election one time in a newspaper having general circulation
in the school district. The notice for board member elections shall state
(1) the name of the school district, (2) the date of the general election,
(3) the date of the primary election if one is held, (4) the filing deadline
and the place of filing, and (5) the offices or positions to be filled.

(c) All notices provided for by this section shall be given in the form
prescribed by the secretary of state to the extent that any notice or part
thereof is prescribed by the secretary of state. The provisions of this section shall not be construed to require the secretary of state to prescribe
any particular form.

28(d) Not less than six weeks prior to the first Tuesday in April following 29 the fourth Monday in August of any even-numbered year a notice of primary elections shall be published by the county election officer in a 30 newspaper having general circulation in the school district, if a primary 3132 election is required to be held. The publication shall be made one time 33 and shall state (1) the name of the school district, (2) the date of the 34 primary election, (3) the names of the candidates and the office or posi-35 tion for which each is a candidate, (4) the voting place or places and the 36 area each voting place is to serve, (5) the times of opening and closing of 37 the polls. Description of areas shall be in the terms determined by the 38 county election officer.

(e) Not less than three days prior to the first Tuesday in April follow-*ing the fourth Monday in August in any even-numbered year* a notice of
the general election shall be published by the county election officer one
time in a newspaper having general circulation in the school district. The
notice shall state (1) the name of the school district, (2) the date of the

1 general election, (3) the names of the candidates and the office or position

for which each is a candidate, (4) the voting place or places and the area 2 3 each voting place is to serve, (5) the time of opening and closing of polls. Description of areas shall be in such terms as may be determined by the 4 county election officer. $\mathbf{5}$

(f) Notice of any question submitted election of any school district 6 7 shall be made in the manner provided by K.S.A. 10-120, and amendments thereto. The notice shall state (1) the name of the school district, (2) the 8 9 date of the election, (3) the amount of bonds to be issued, if a bond election, (4) the proposition to be voted upon, (5) the hours of opening 10and closing of the polls, (6) the voting place or places and the area each 11 12voting place is to serve, and (7) any other information specifically required 13 by law. Description of areas shall be in the terms determined by the county election officer. 14

15 Sec. 8. K.S.A. 25-2023 is hereby amended to read as follows: 25-162023. (a) Except as provided in subsection (b), each board member shall qualify by filing an oath of office with the election officer not later than 1718 $\frac{10}{10}$ 10 days following the date of the election, or not later than five 19(5) days after issuance of such member's certificate of election, whichever 20is the later date. Each board member shall take office on the July 1 21following the general school election. Each member elected to a board 22 of education shall hold office until a successor is elected or appointed and 23 qualified and shall serve for a term of four (4) years.

(b) Board members elected in 2005 shall hold office until successors 24 25are elected and qualified in 2008. Board members elected in 2007 shall 26hold office until successors are elected and qualified in 2010.

27 Sec. 9. K.S.A. 25-2102 is hereby amended to read as follows: 25-282102. (a) "General election" means the election held on the Tuesday 29 succeeding the first Monday in November of even-numbered years, the elections held for officers on the first Tuesday in April, and in the case 30 of special elections of any officers to fill vacancies, the election at which 3132 any such officer is finally elected.

"Primary election" means the election held on the first Tuesday 33 (b) 34 in August of even-numbered years, the election held five weeks preceding 35 the election on the first Tuesday in April, and any other preliminary election at which part of the candidates for special election to any national, 36 37 state, county, city or school office are eliminated by the process of the 38 election but at which no officer is finally elected.

39 Sec. 10. K.S.A. 25-2107 is hereby amended to read as follows: 25-40 2107. From and after July 1, 2007, the general election of city officers shall be held on the first Tuesday in April November of any even-num-41bered year. Except as otherwise provided by law or as provided by charter 42

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ordinance passed after April 30, 1968, pursuant to article 12, section 5,

1 of the constitution of Kansas, from and after July 1, 2007, every city shall have an election of city officers in odd-numbered even-numbered years 2 3 only, and the terms of city officers shall be two (2) years-*Provided*, however, That. The provisions of this section shall not invalidate, repeal or 4 $\mathbf{5}$ otherwise affect any charter ordinance of any city of the third class having a population of not less than one thousand five hundred (1,500) 1,500 6 7 nor more than two thousand (2,000) 2,000 located in a county having a 8 population of not less than fifty thousand (50,000) 50,000 nor more than 9 one hundred thousand (100,000) 100,000, which ordinance had become 10 effective prior to April 30, 1968. Sec. 11. K.S.A. 25-2108a is hereby amended to read as follows: 25-11

2108a. (a) Except as otherwise provided in subsection (b), there shall be
a primary election of city officers on the Tuesday preceding by five weeks
the first Tuesday in April first Tuesday following the fourth Monday in
August of every year that such city has a city election, except as otherwise
provided in subsection (b) of this section.
(b) No primary election of city officers shall be held unless by holding

such primary one (1) or more persons will be eliminated as candidates for office. In the event there are not more than two (2) candidates for any one office, the names of the candidates for such office shall not appear on the primary election ballots, and there shall be no primary election for such office, but the names of such candidates shall be placed on the general city election ballot.

Sec. 12. K.S.A. 25-2109 is hereby amended to read as follows: 25-2109. The filing deadline for all city elections shall be 12:00 o'clock noon
of the Tuesday preceding by 10 weeks the first Tuesday in April November of an even-numbered year.

Sec. 13. K.S.A. 25-2120 is hereby amended to read as follows: 25-2120. (*a*) the county election officer who conducts the city election shall 30 promptly certify to the city governing body the determination of election 31 results made by the county board of canvassers. The term of office shall 32 commence with and include the first regular meeting of the governing 33 body following certification of the election.

Every person elected or appointed to city office, before entering upon
the duties of such office, shall take and subscribe an oath or affirmation
as specified in K.S.A. 54-106, and every such oath or affirmation shall be
filed with the city clerk.

(b) (1) Each city official the starting date of whose term of office is
governed by this section and who is elected in 2007 shall hold office until
the first regular meeting of the governing body following the certification
of the election in 2008.

42 (2) The term of each city official the starting date of whose term of 43 office is governed by this section and who is elected in 2008 shall commence with and include the first regular meeting of the governing body
 following the certification of the election.

3 Sec. 14. K.S.A. 25-2311 is hereby amended to read as follows: 25-4 2311. (a) County election officers shall provide for the registration of 5 voters at one or more places on all days except the following:

6 (1) Days when the main offices of the county government are closed 7 for business, except as is otherwise provided by any county election officer 8 under the provisions of K.S.A. 25-2312 and amendments thereto;

9 (2) days when the main offices of the city government are closed for 10 business, in the case of deputy county election officers who are city clerks 11 except as is otherwise provided by any county election officer under the 12 provisions of K.S.A. 25-2312 and amendments thereto;

13 (3) the 14 days preceding the day of primary and general state 14 elections;

(4) the 14 days preceding the day of primary city and school elections,if either has a primary;

(5) the 14 days preceding each first Tuesday in April of odd-numbered years November of even-numbered years, being the day of city and
school general elections;

20 (6) the 14 days preceding the day of any election other than one 21 specified in paragraphs (3), (4) and (5) of this subsection; and

(7) the day of any primary or general election or any question sub-mitted election.

(b) For the purposes of this section in counting days that registration
books are to be closed, all of the days including Sunday and legal holidays
shall be counted.

(c) The secretary of state shall notify every county election officer of
the dates when registration shall be closed preceding primary and general
state, city and school elections. The days so specified by the secretary of
state shall be conclusive. Such notice shall be given by the secretary of
state by mail at least 60 days preceding every primary and general state,
city and school election.

33 (d) The last days before closing of registration books as directed by 34 the secretary of state under subsection (c) of this section, county election 35 officers shall provide for registration of voters during regular business hours, during the noon hours and at other than regular business hours 36 37 upon such days as the county election officers deem necessary. The last three business days before closing of registration books prior to state 38 39 primary and general elections, county election officers may provide for registration of voters until 9:00 p.m. in cities of the first and second class. 40 (e) County election officers shall accept and process applications re-41

42 ceived by voter registration agencies and the division of motor vehicles
 43 not later than the 15th day preceding the date of any election; mailed

1 voter registration applications that are postmarked not later than the 15th

2 day preceding the date of any election; or, if the postmark is illegible or
3 missing, is received in the mail not later than the ninth day preceding the
4 day of any election.

5 (f) The secretary of state may adopt rules and regulations interpreting 6 the provisions of this section and specifying the days when registration 7 shall be open, days when registration shall be closed, and days when it is 8 optional with the county election officer for registration to be open or 9 closed.

(g) Before each primary and general election held in even-numbered
years, and at times and in a form prescribed by the secretary of state,
each county election officer shall certify to the secretary of state the number of registered voters in each precinct of the county as shown by the
registration books in the office of such county election officer.

Sec. 15. K.S.A. 25-2502 is hereby amended to read as follows: 25-62502. (a) "General election" means the election held on the Tuesday 73 succeeding the first Monday in November of even-numbered years, the 74 elections held for officers on the first Tuesday in April, and in the case 75 of special elections of any officers to fill vacancies, the election at which 76 any such officer is finally elected.

(b) "Primary election" means the election held on the first Tuesday
in August of even-numbered years, the election held five weeks preceding
the election on the first Tuesday in April, and any other preliminary election at which part of the candidates for special election to any national,
state, county, township, city or school office are eliminated by the process
of the election but at which no officer is finally elected.

Sec. 16. K.S.A. 25-3503 is hereby amended to read as follows: 25-3503. (a) In the event that any vacancy occurs to which this act applies, and such occurrence is not more than <u>ninety (90)</u> 90 days and not less than thirty (30) 30 days before any primary election of state officers, the election provided for in this act shall be held on the same date as the primary election of state officers.

(b) In the event that any vacancy occurs to which this act applies, and
such occurrence is not more than ninety (90) 90 days and not less than
thirty (30) 30 days before any regular primary or general election of city
and school officers occurring in an odd-numbered even-numbered year,
the election provided for in this act shall be held within such ninety (90)
90 days and on the same date as such primary or general election.

(c) In the event that any vacancy occurs to which this act applies, and
such occurrence is not more than thirty (30) 30 days before any primary
election of state officers and before the general election of state officers,
at such general election votes cast for the office of congressman in the
district in which such vacancy has occurred shall be deemed to be cast to

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fill the vacancy for the unexpired term, as well as for the election for the
next regular term. The governor shall proclaim the date of the election
to be the same as the general election of state officers.

(d) In the event that any vacancy occurs to which this act applies, on 4 or after the date of any general election of state officers and before the 5term of office in which the vacancy has occurred expires, votes cast for 6 7 the office of congressman in the district in which such vacancy occurs shall be deemed to have been cast to fill such vacancy for the unexpired 8 9 term, as well as for election for the next regular term. The governor's approval of this act shall be deemed to proclaim that every regular elec-10 tion of a representative to the United States congress shall be an election 11 for the unexpired term if any should occur, as well as election for the next 1213 regular term. In cases to which subsection (c) of this section or this subsection applies, the person elected for the next regular term shall be 1415deemed to have been elected for the balance of the unexpired term also. Sec. 17. K.S.A. 25-203, 25-1115, 25-2006, 25-2007, 25-2010, 25-16 2018, 25-2023, 25-2102, 25-2107, 25-2108a, 25-2109, 25-2120, 25-2311, 171825-2502 and 25-3503 and K.S.A. 2006 Supp. 25-1122 are hereby repealed. 19 Sec. 18. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its

20 publication in the statute book.