

# Tuesday, November 8



*advance voting  
begins October 19*

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# What's on the ballot?

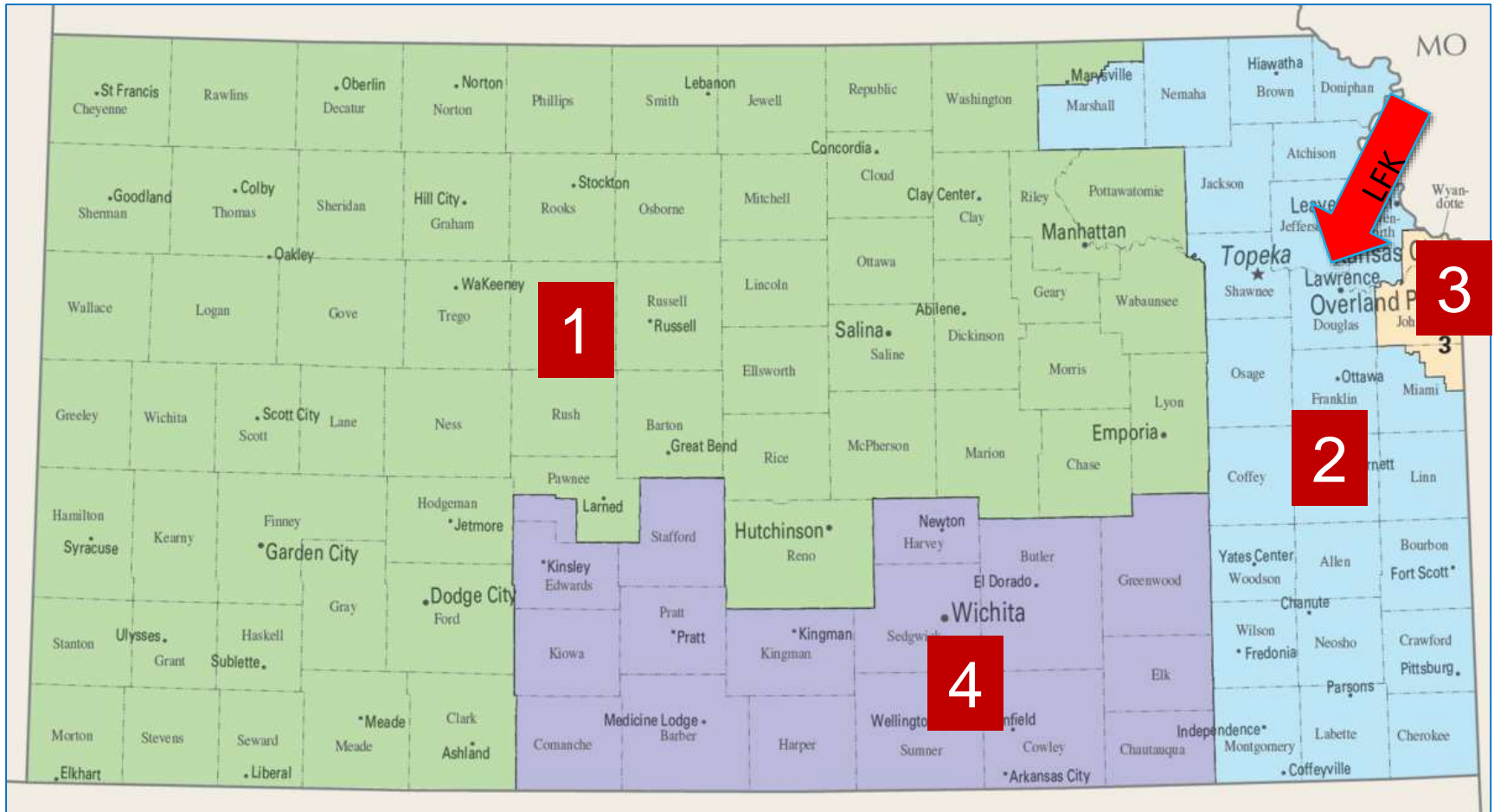
- Governor/Lt. Governor
- Attorney General
- Secretary of State
- Insurance Commissioner



- U.S. Senate (1)
- U.S. House District 1  
(Lawrence)
- U.S. House District 2  
(non-Lawrence Douglas County)

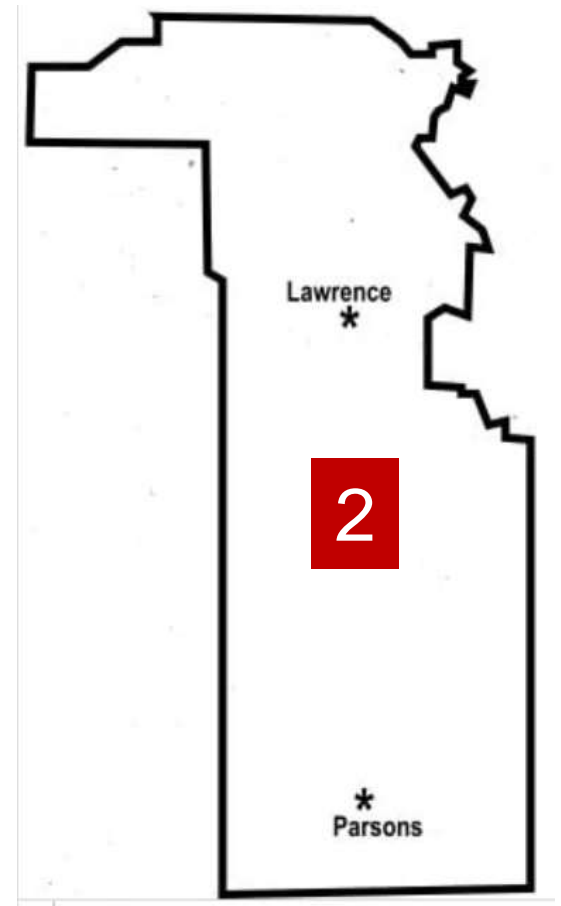


# U.S. House Districts (former map 2012–2022)

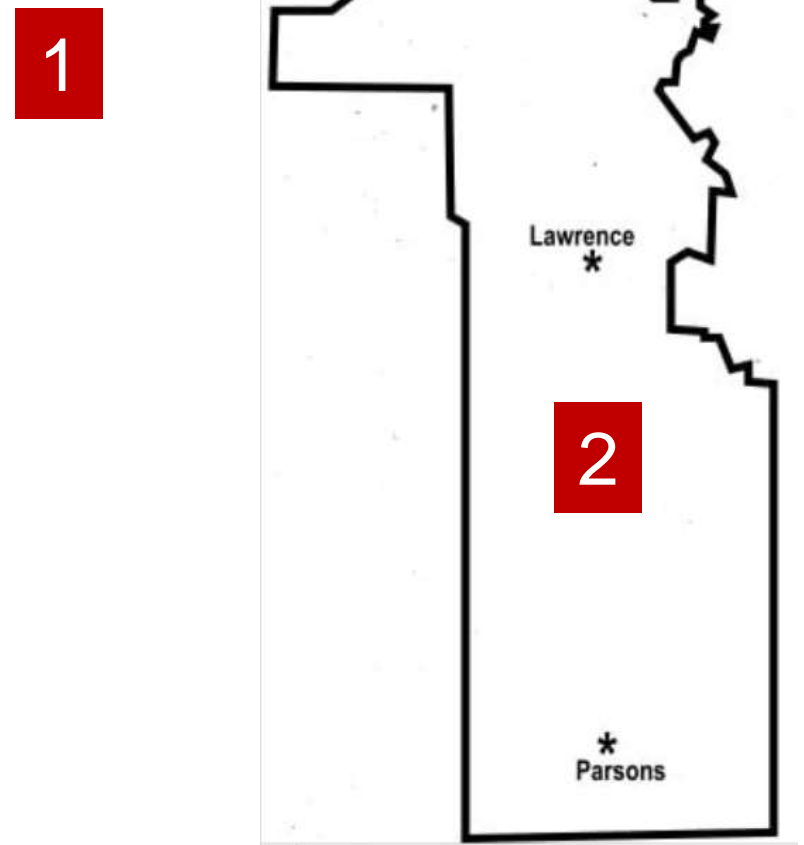
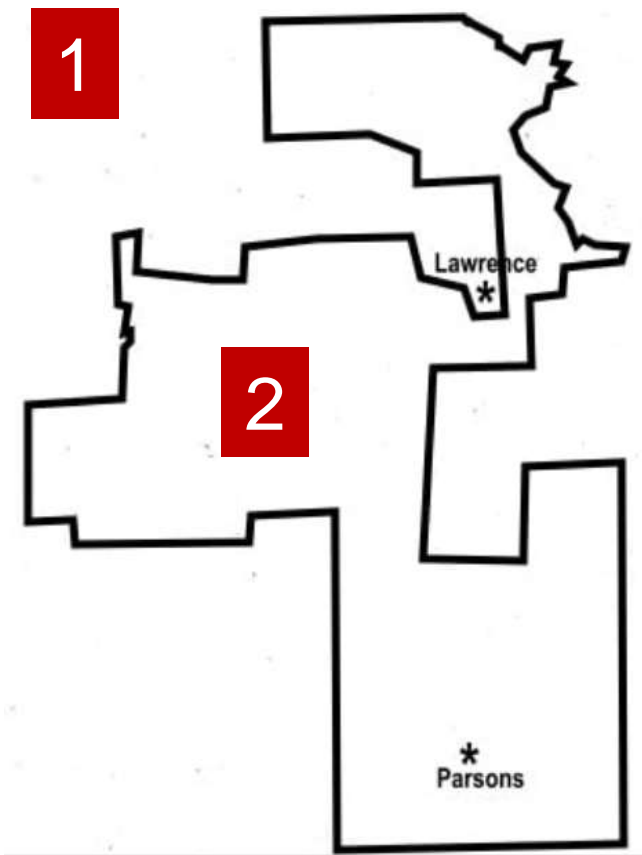


# District 2 (former map 2012–2022)

1



## District 2 (former vs. current)





# U.S. House Districts (current map)



# U.S. House Districts (current map)



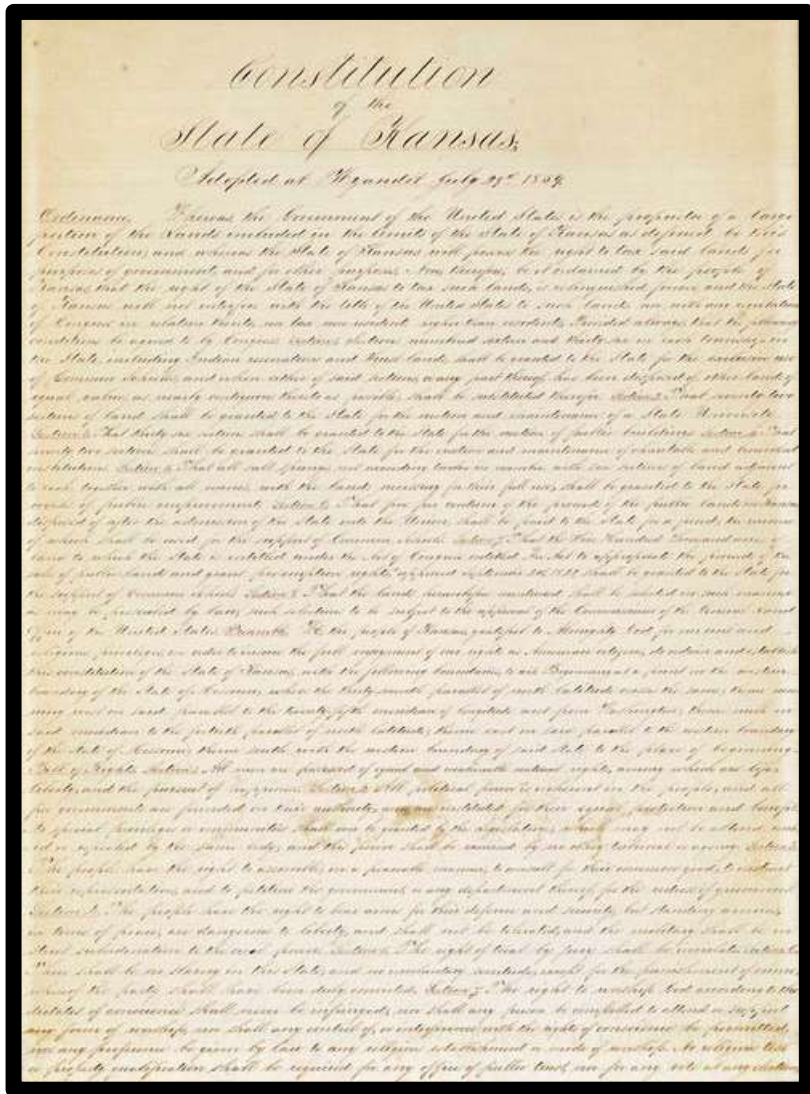
- State Senate (2024)
- State Representatives
- State Board of Education
- Douglas County Commission  
(District 1)



# Two proposed state constitutional amendments



# our state constitution



- ratified 1861
- amended 98 times

## Amendment #1

“Legislative Veto or Suspension  
of Executive Agency Regulations”  
Amendment

*Would give the state legislature power  
to revoke or suspend executive agency regulations  
by a simple majority vote.*

**Legislative-Veto Amendment**

# Legislative-Veto Amendment

(text)

**§ 17. Legislative oversight of administrative rules and regulations.** Whenever the legislature by law has authorized any officer or agency within the executive branch of government to adopt rules and regulations that have the force and effect of law, the legislature may provide by law for the revocation or suspension of any such rule and regulation, or any portion thereof, upon a vote of a majority of the members then elected or appointed and qualified in each house.

# Legislative-Veto Amendment

(my paraphrasing)

**§ 17. Legislative oversight of administrative rules and regulations.** Whenever an agency within the executive branch of government adopts rules or regulations, the legislature may revoke or suspend any such rules and regulations upon a simple majority vote of legislators.



# Legislative-Veto Amendment

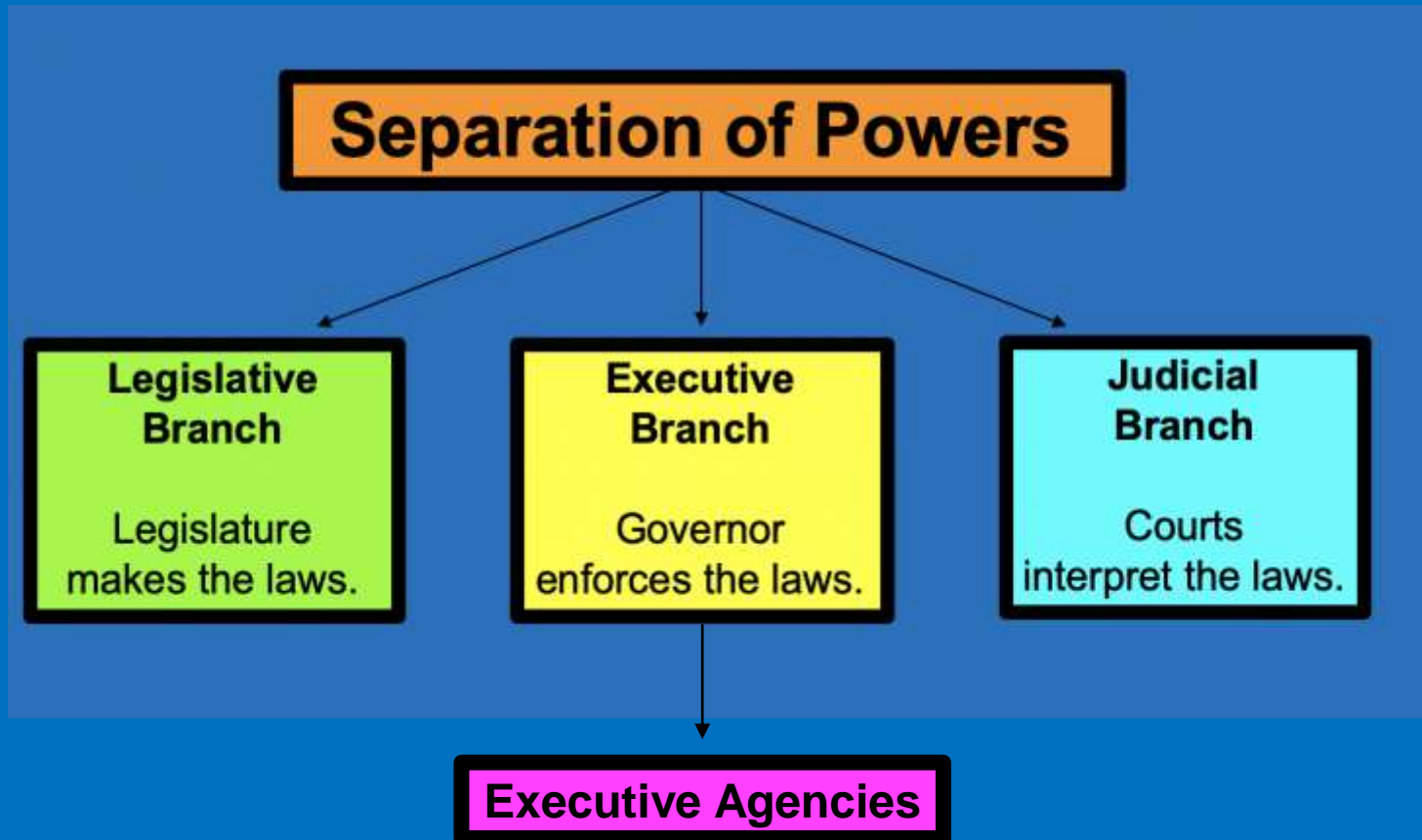
(my paraphrasing)

The amendment would give the state legislature power to revoke or suspend executive agency regulations by a simple majority vote.

## Legislative-Veto Amendment

If passed, how would  
the amendment  
change existing law?

# Legislative-Veto Amendment



# Legislative-Veto Amendment

## **Executive Agencies**

**13 executive agencies**



***Executive agencies make and enforce rules and regulations.***

# Legislative-Veto Amendment

## **Executive Agencies**



**e.g., regulates water pollution**

# Legislative-Veto Amendment



## Regulation

**No dumping toxic chemicals  
into creeks, rivers, or lakes.**

# Legislative-Veto Amendment



## Regulation

**No dumping toxic chemicals  
into creeks, rivers, or lakes.**



*The legislature must pass a law  
to revoke or limit this regulation.*

# Legislative-Veto Amendment

## Revoking the Regulation (passing a law)

A legislator introduces a bill to revoke the regulation.



The bill must pass by a simple majority, or 51%.



The bill goes to the Governor for signing.



If the Governor vetoes, the bill goes back to the legislature.



The bill will become law and the regulation revoked **only if** the legislature has a veto-proof majority, or 2/3.



# Legislative-Veto Amendment

## Revoking the Regulation (passing a law)

A legislator introduces a bill to revoke the regulation.

The bill must pass by a simple majority, or 51%.

The bill goes to the Governor for signing.

If the Governor vetoes, the bill goes back to the legislature.

The bill will become law and the regulation is revoked **only if** the legislature has a veto-proof majority, or 2/3.

# Legislative-Veto Amendment

## **Revoking the Regulation** (passing a law)

A legislator introduces a bill  
to revoke the regulation.



If the bill passes  
by a simple majority,  
or 51%,  
the regulation is revoked.



**Regulation**  
**No dumping  
toxic chemicals  
into creeks, rivers, or lakes.**



# Legislative-Veto Amendment

The amendment would give the state legislature power to revoke or suspend executive agency regulations by a simple majority vote, thereby taking away the governor's veto power.

A **"yes"** vote supports this constitutional amendment to allow the state legislature to pass laws by a simple majority vote to revoke or suspend rules and regulations adopted by executive agencies.

A **"no"** vote opposes this constitutional amendment, thereby maintaining that the legislature must pass a law to revoke or suspend rules and regulations adopted by executive agencies.



## Amendment #2

### “County Sheriff Election and Recall Amendment” Amendment

*This amendment would change  
the rules about how we elect and remove our sheriffs.*

## **Sheriff Amendment**

# Sheriff Amendment

## (text—election of sheriffs)

(a) Except as provided in subsection (b), each county shall elect a sheriff for a term of four years by a majority of the qualified electors of the county voting thereon at the time of voting designated for such office pursuant to law in effect on January 11, 2022, and every four years thereafter.

(b) The provisions of subsection (a) shall not apply to a county that abolished the office of sheriff prior to January 11, 2022. Such county may restore the office of sheriff as provided by law and such restoration shall be irrevocable. A county that restores the office of sheriff shall elect a sheriff by a majority of the qualified electors of the county voting thereon for a term of four years. Such sheriff shall have such qualifications and duties as provided by law. The time of voting for the office of sheriff may be provided for by the legislature pursuant to section 18 of article 2 of this constitution.

# Sheriff Amendment

(my paraphrasing—election of sheriffs)

(a) Each county shall elect a sheriff.

(b) Subsection (a) does not apply to Riley County.

# Sheriff Amendment

(my paraphrasing—election of sheriffs)

The proposed amendment would require counties have an ***elected*** sheriff as their head of law enforcement.

Currently, out of 105 counties in Kansas, 104 already elect their sheriffs.



# Sheriff Amendment

Given 104 counties already elect their sheriffs, what effect might this amendment have in the future if it passes?



# Sheriff Amendment

county and city governments consolidate

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graph TD; A[county and city governments consolidate] --> B[law enforcement agency board created to appoint a police director]; B --> C[no elected law enforcement official in a consolidated government];
```

law enforcement agency board  
created to appoint a police director

no elected law enforcement official  
in a consolidated government

# Sheriff Amendment



The proposed amendment would require counties to elect a sheriff, *even if* a county and city government consolidate.

# Sheriff Amendment

(text—removal of sheriffs)

## Section 5:

### Removal of Officers

(a) Except as provided in subsection (b), all county and township officers may be removed from office, in such manner and for such cause, as shall be prescribed by law.

(b) A county sheriff only may be involuntarily removed from office by recall election pursuant to section 3 of article 4 of this constitution or a writ of quo warranto initiated by the attorney general.

# Sheriff Amendment

(my paraphrasing—removal of sheriffs)

## Removal of Officers

- (a) County officials can be removed from office.
- (b) A county sheriff may be involuntarily removed from office only by
  - 1) a recall election of the voters or
  - 2) a writ of *quo warranto* initiated by the attorney general.

# Sheriff Amendment

(my paraphrasing—removal of sheriffs)

This proposed amendment would take power from local district attorneys to initiate an investigation into a sheriff's misconduct and would give that power ***solely*** to the attorney general.

## Sheriff Amendment

If passed, how would  
the amendment  
change existing law?



# Sheriff Amendment

## Recall

A county sheriff may be involuntarily removed from office only by 1) a recall election of the voters or...

The proposed amendment would ***not*** change the power of voters to recall a sheriff behaving badly.

To cause a recall election, a voter must submit a petition with signatures equaling at least 40% of the votes cast in the last election. If enough signatures are collected, an election is held. If a majority of voters (51%) vote to recall the sheriff, the sheriff is removed from office.



# Sheriff Amendment

## *Quo Warranto*

A county sheriff may be involuntarily removed from office only by [a voter recall] or 2) a writ of *quo warranto* initiated by the attorney general.

# quo warranto

(noun) a special form of legal action or writ calling upon a person to show by what authority he or she claims an office, franchise, or liberty.

# Sheriff Amendment

## *Quo Warranto*

A county sheriff may be involuntarily removed from office only by [a voter recall] or 2) a writ of *quo warranto* initiated by the attorney general.

***Quo Warranto:*** A legal proceeding that initiates an investigation of a public official believed to be engaging in misconduct.

A judge ultimately decides whether to remove the public official from office.

# Sheriff Amendment

## *Quo Warranto*



Under current law,  
either the local district attorney  
or the attorney general  
can file a writ of *quo warranto*,  
thereby initiating an investigation.



quo warranto



quo warranto



quo warranto





quo warranto



quo warranto



# Sheriff Amendment

This proposed amendment would take power from all local district attorneys to initiate an investigation into a sheriff's misconduct and would give that power ***solely*** to the attorney general.

A **"yes"** vote supports this amendment, which would:

- require an elected county sheriff
- take the power away from local district attorneys to initiate an investigation into a sheriff's conduct, giving that power solely to the attorney general.

A **"no"** vote opposes this amendment, thereby maintaining that:

- counties (including consolidated governments) are not required to elect a sheriff
- local district attorneys retain the power, along with the attorney general, to initiate an investigation into a sheriff's conduct.



# Retention Election of Judges

In Kansas, our governor appoints state supreme court justices when there is a vacancy on the bench.

Kansas judges face retention elections—meaning we vote whether to keep that justice or vote ‘em out.

Newly appointed justices face retention the very next election after our governor appoints them. Thereafter, justices are up for retention every six years.

# Retention Election of Judges

Vacancy on the bench



Governor appoints

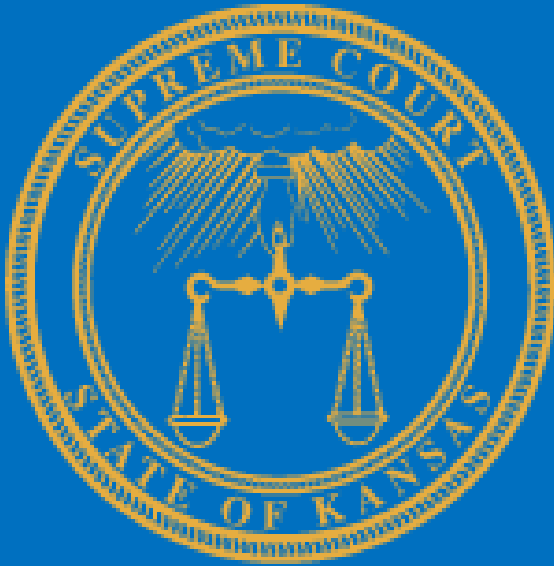


Retention election  
within one year after appointment



Retention election  
every six years thereafter

# Retention Election of Judges



# Kansas Supreme Court



Chief  
Marla Luckert  
appointed 2002



Eric Rosen  
appointed 2005



Dan Biles  
appointed 2009



Caleb Stegall  
appointed 2014



Evelyn Wilson  
appointed 2020



Keynen Wall  
appointed 2020



Melissa Taylor  
Standridge  
appointed 2020

# Retention Election of Judges

Vacancy on the bench



Governor appoints



Retention election  
within one year after appointment

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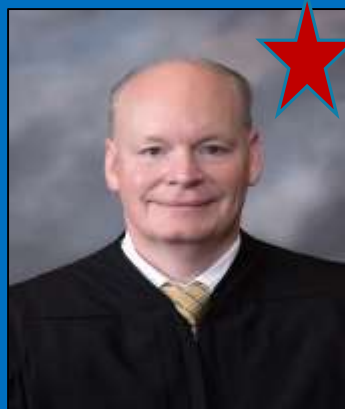
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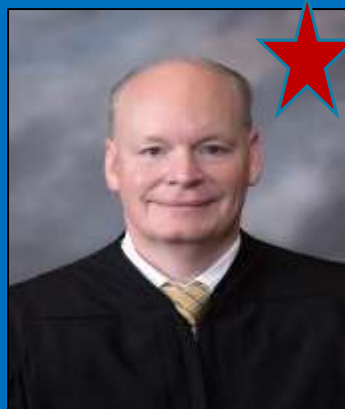
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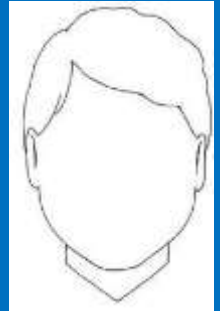
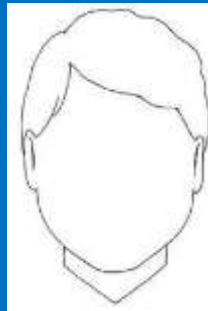
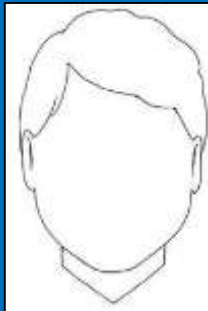
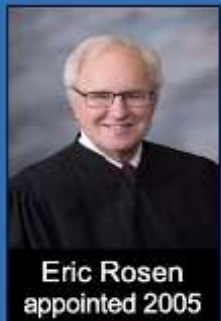


Melissa Taylor  
Standridge  
appointed 2020

# Judges Not retained are appointed by the governor



Governor



# Retention Election of Judges

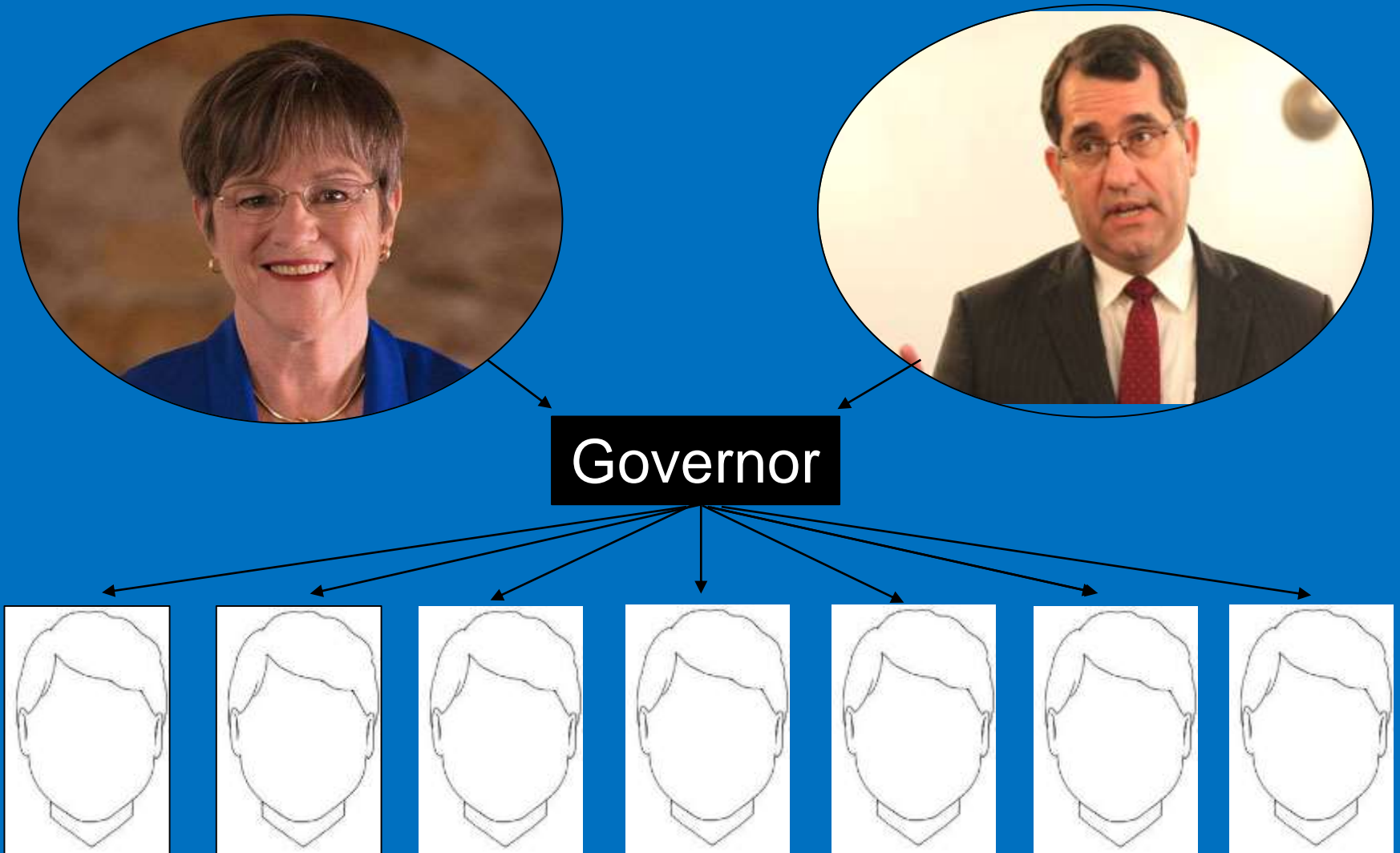


# Kansas Court of Appeals

## **Kansas Court of Appeals judges up for retention (7 of 14)**

1. Lesley Ann Isherwood
2. Kim R. Schroeder
3. Stephen Hill
4. Thomas E. Malone
5. Henry Green
6. Amy Cline
7. Jacy Hurst

# Judges Not retained are appointed by the governor



A "**yes**" vote retains our state court judges.

A "**no**" vote removes our state court judges, which permits the next governor to potentially appoint six Kansas Supreme Court Justices and seven Kansas Court of Appeals Judges.







# Tuesday, November 8

- register to vote by **October 18** at [ksvotes.org](https://ksvotes.org)
- early voting starts **October 19**
- request a mail-in ballot by **November 1**