

**RESOLUTION NO. 2015-002**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF PAOLA, KANSAS, OPPOSING THE KANSAS STATE LEGISLATURE'S CONSIDERATION OF MAKING MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS PARTISAN AND MOVING TO THE FALL OF EVEN NUMBERED YEARS.**

**WHEREAS**, the Senate Ethics and Elections committee of the Kansas Legislature originally considered SB 171, which would make nonpartisan city and school elections partisan and move to the fall of even numbered years to be held in conjunction with state and federal elections; and,

**WHEREAS**, the City feels that said legislation would unnecessarily interfere with local elections and would create the likelihood that local issues would be lost or ignored by voters during the course of large scale federal and state partisan elections; and,

**WHEREAS**, the City has concerns its issues would be relegated to the bottom of the ballot if placed with state and national elections leading to voter apathy with regards to said local issues; and,

**WHEREAS**, the City has concerns that partisan elections will harm the quality of city governments in Kansas and prohibit federal employees and active duty military from running for local office; and,

**WHEREAS**, the City is opposed to moving its elections to the fall of even numbered years.

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE CITY OF PAOLA, KANSAS:** The City of Paola officially opposes SB 171 or any other legislation that moves local elections to the fall of even numbered years to be held in conjunction with state and federal elections.

**ADOPTED** by the governing body of the City of Paola, Kansas on this 10th day of February, 2015.

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Artie Stuteville, Mayor

Attest:

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Daniel G. Droste, City Clerk