

2026 RACE PROFILE: KANSAS SECRETARY OF STATE

Kansas Secretary of State Scott Schwab announced he would run for governor in 2026, leaving an open seat. The Democratic candidates are Jennifer Jay and Samuel Lane and the Republican candidate is state Representative Pat Proctor.

Key findings are below:

Republican Candidate Pat Proctor

As one of the most outspoken members of the state House on election reform, Proctor could be accused of being an election denier and sharing similar views to conspiratorial far-right leaders like Donald Trump. Opponents may highlight Proctor's statements peddling globalist conspiracy theories and harmful rhetoric about LGBTQ people.

Rep. Pat Proctor was elected to the state legislature in 2020. Proctor retired from the U.S. Army as a colonel following 25 years of military service that coincided with wars in Afghanistan and Iraq, in which he held active roles. In 2020, he wrote the book "Lessons Unlearned: The U.S. Army's Role in Creating the Forever Wars in Afghanistan and Iraq." While serving in the Legislature, Proctor has taught at Wichita State University. He received a doctorate in history from Kansas State University.

Voting Rights: As Chair of the House Committee on Elections, Proctor has repeatedly targeted voting access. Proctor said he played a role in the process of making Kansas "the gold standard for safe and secure elections," and would continue that work as secretary of state." During the 2025 legislation session, he supported a bill eliminating Kansas's three-day grace period for advance mail-in ballots. In a private Zoom in 2024, Proctor said he would prefer Kansas ended the practice of advance voting altogether, saying "if it was up to me, Election Day would be Election Day." In 2021, he supported legislation that sought to make it a misdemeanor to transmit more than 10 absentee ballots and forbid gathering or delivering ballots from anyone other than immediate family members. Proctor said Kansas's existing laws jeopardized the credibility of elections if "we can't be sure that the ballots cast at home have the same rules applied to them as the ballots cast at the election box." Proctor said voter confidence issues had probably been exacerbated by mail-in and early voting, as well as taking ballots for several days after Election Day. However, Proctor added, "But I live in the real world and I understand that people like the convenience of mail-in balloting and I know that people like the convenience of early voting." Proctor noted that he votes early himself and said "early and mail-in voting aren't going anywhere."

Election Denialism: According to the Kansas Reflector, "Proctor was among the Kansas Legislature's advocates for election reform bills associated with Trump's election denial claims." Proctor has repeatedly used the phrase "axis of ballot harvesting" on the campaign trail, including in fundraising emails in which he weaponized it against Loud Light, a voting rights organization, and States Newsroom, the parent organization of *Kansas Reflector*. According to an editorial by the Reflector, "His ambiguous 'axis of ballot harvesting' serves as a catchall for anyone who challenges his false claims about the hazards of early voting, and signals a vast make-believe conspiracy by foreign nationals to undermine elections." Proctor also said he wanted to eliminate early voting and that mail-in ballots should be restricted to military members and those with severe disabilities. Proctor thanked President Trump for "never giving up the fight for free & fair elections." He claimed Trump's Executive Order on Election Integrity was "a great roadmap on how to restore confidence in our elections across our nation." Proctor said the state is "well on its way" to meeting every benchmark laid out in Trump's

executive order, which included: requiring proof of citizenship, complying with the Help America Vote Act, working with the Department of Homeland Security to identify noncitizens who have voted, ending grace periods for mailed ballots, stop foreign contributions and banning lobbying by any organization receiving federal funds.” Additionally, he said he “fought for the implementation of the President's directives on proof of citizenship & voting machines” as a member of the Board of Advisors to the US Election Assistance Commission. In 2022, Proctor responded to President Biden saying “It’s important the American people understand what truly happened” on January 6th with a tweet that said “I agree! Like, who shot Ashli Babbitt? And how many FBI agents were in the crowd and when did they know there would be a riot?”

However, after a 2024 legislature hearing that platformed misinformation and false claims of election fraud, Proctor seemingly attempted to distance himself from the fringe right. Proctor said the Kansas Legislature could make changes to improve elections, but “it’s very hard to do when we have a contingent that is not really tethered to facts or evidence of any kind because the folks that are trying to make rational, reasonable arguments to fix stuff get painted with that brush.” Proctor said he didn’t have an issue with the committee allowing individuals to testify about their concerns about election equipment, but the Legislature needed to hear from vendors, voting rights groups, and county election officials. Proctor said some of the concerns raised at the hearing were related to people’s ignorance, arguing “Some people don’t know how the whole system works and a lot of the suspicions and concerns are living in this space where people don’t really know how it works.”

Campaign Finance: Proctor introduced a bill that would require any entity “who engages in any activity promoting or opposing” a proposed constitutional amendment to certify that each donor is not a “foreign national,” and that each donor has not received more than \$100,000 from any foreign national within a four-year period.” According to the Kansas Reflector, Proctor took a central role among Kansas Republicans who worked to limit authority of the Kansas Governmental Ethics Commission to engage in inquiries of campaign finance violations and election misconduct amid investigations of Republican legislators and campaign workers.

Journalism: Proctor shares President Trump’s affinity for attacking members of the press. According to the *Kansas Reflector*, Proctor frequently criticized journalists who reported on him, including personal attacks on social media. In response to a request for comment, Proctor told a *Kansas Reflector* employee “you are a partisan hack and your so-called ‘newspaper’ is a woke, leftist propaganda rag.” In a fundraising email, Proctor accused Kansas Reflector of being “part of a vast, dark money, left-wing propaganda machine called States Newsroom,” which he said received funding from foreign sources like Swiss businessman Hansjörg Wyss.

LGBTQ+ Rights: Proctor utilizes inflammatory language when speaking about LGBTQ people. In 2023, Proctor was reportedly criticized by a Kansas family for publishing an elementary school student’s drawing of a rainbow flag in his political newsletter without permission. Proctor claimed the drawing was evidence educators in schools were indoctrinating children on LGBTQ politics, calling it part of a “radical, woke agenda.” Proctor also supported legislation that banned transgender athletes from competing in girls and women’s school sports. He claimed, “this isn’t about discriminating against trans women; it’s about basic fairness,” citing biological advantages. The same year, Proctor shared images that claimed “trans militants” had “defaced the sidewalk” outside of his restaurant with hateful comments, in reference to messages written in chalk. Proctor appeared to specifically call out and deadname a trans person in the tweet, referring to them as “trans Satanist Tristan ‘Rachel’ Stout.”

Abortion: Proctor is vocally anti-choice. In 2022, Proctor urged Kansans to pass the Value Them Both amendment, arguing, “whether Roe v. Wade is overturned or not, Kansas will remain a destination for the most extreme abortions if we don't pass the Value Them Both Amendment and restore our rights, stolen from Kansans by the Kansas Supreme Court, to regulate the abortion industry.” He claimed “the abortion industry will stop at nothing to keep Kansas a no-holds-barred abortion state.” Loud Light, a voting rights group in Kansas, circulated a video clip of Proctor speaking at a 2024 event in which Proctor implied pro-choice voters were “stealing” the 2022 election. In the clip, Proctor said during the 2022 election, there were “20- to 30-year-old women who, you know, that you never saw at the polls before, and it’s like a long line, got a long line, and they’re all there to vote, and it’s just the — it’s they’re stealing it fair and square.” Proctor claimed the video was altered and said it would be “really terrible if I’d actually said that.” Loud Light maintained that the video was unaltered.

PAT PROCTOR (R)

BIOGRAPHY

Career History

Timeline

2021 – Present: Kansas State Representative. [Pat Proctor, PhD., LinkedIn, accessed [8/26/25](#)]

2019 – Present: Assistant Professor at Wichita State University [Pat Proctor, PhD., LinkedIn, accessed [8/26/25](#)]

2007 – Present: Self-employed author/writer. [Pat Proctor, PhD., LinkedIn, accessed [8/26/25](#)]

1998 – Present: Owner at ProSIM Company. [Pat Proctor, PhD., LinkedIn, accessed [8/26/25](#)]

2017 – 2019: Department Head at Mission Command Training Program. [Pat Proctor, PhD., LinkedIn, accessed [8/26/25](#)]

1994 – 2019: Officer at U.S. Army. [Pat Proctor, PhD., LinkedIn, accessed [8/26/25](#)]

2019: Adjunct Assistant Professor at Benedictine College. [Pat Proctor, PhD., LinkedIn, accessed [8/26/25](#)]

2015 – 2016: Department Head at Joint Readiness Training Center Operations Group. [Pat Proctor, PhD., LinkedIn, accessed [8/26/25](#)]

2013 – 2015: Commander at 4th Battalion, 1st Field Artillery Regiment (U.S. Military). [Pat Proctor, PhD., LinkedIn, accessed [8/26/25](#)]

2011 – 2013: Director of Plans at 1st Infantry Division (U.S. Military). [Pat Proctor, PhD., LinkedIn, accessed [8/26/25](#)]

2012: Adjunct Instructor at University of Maryland University College. [Pat Proctor, PhD., LinkedIn, accessed [8/26/25](#)]

2009 – 2010: Chief Operating Officer at 2nd Battalion, 32nd Field Artillery Regiment U.S. Military). [Pat Proctor, PhD., LinkedIn, accessed [8/26/25](#)]

2007: Senior Strategic Communications Planner at Multi-National Force – Iraq. [Pat Proctor, PhD., LinkedIn, accessed [8/26/25](#)]

2003 – 2006: Instructor at the National Training Center and Fort Irwin. [Pat Proctor, PhD., LinkedIn, accessed [8/26/25](#)]

2016 – 2017: Master's degree, Military Strategic Studies, General – U.S. Army War College. [Pat Proctor, PhD., LinkedIn, accessed [8/26/25](#)]

2008 – 2014: Doctorate, History – Kansas State University. [Pat Proctor, PhD., LinkedIn, accessed [8/26/25](#)]

2007 – 2008: Master of Military Arts and Sciences, Theater Operations – U.S. Army School of Advanced Military Studies. [Pat Proctor, PhD., LinkedIn, accessed [8/26/25](#)]

2006: Master of Military Arts and Sciences, Strategy – U.S. Army Command and General Staff College. [Pat Proctor, PhD., LinkedIn, accessed [8/26/25](#)]

1989 – 1994: BS, Mechanical Engineering – Purdue University. [Pat Proctor, PhD., LinkedIn, accessed [8/26/25](#)]

Proctor retired from the U.S. Army as a colonel following 25 years of military service that coincided with wars in Afghanistan and Iraq. “Proctor retired from the U.S. Army as a colonel following 25 years of military service that coincided with wars in Afghanistan and Iraq. In Afghanistan, he was a planning chief for the transition of that war to security forces ahead of the withdrawal of most American forces. During 2009, he deployed to Iraq as an operations officer for an infantry battalion. He worked in Iraq in 2007 on a strategic communication plan for a U.S. troop surge.” [Kansas Reflector, [4/4/25](#)]

2020: Proctor published the book “Lessons Unlearned: The U.S. Army’s Role in Creating the Forever Wars in Afghanistan and Iraq.” “He wrote the 2020 book ‘Lessons Unlearned: The U.S. Army’s Role in Creating the Forever Wars in Afghanistan and Iraq.’” [Kansas Reflector, [4/4/25](#)]

PHILOSOPHY

At a campaign kickoff event, Proctor said the best way to restore voter confidence in elections was “to increase transparency and ensure that only citizens vote in Kansas.” “Proctor, 53, announced his candidacy Thursday during an event at a restaurant in Leavenworth. ‘Voter confidence that the results of our elections reflect their will is at the core of our form of government and our way of life,’ Proctor said. ‘The best way to restore that confidence is to increase transparency and ensure that only citizens vote in Kansas’ elections.’” [Kansas Reflector, [4/4/25](#)]

Proctor said he played a role in the process of making Kansas “the gold standard for safe and secure elections,” and would continue that work as secretary of state. “Proctor said he played a role in the process of making Kansas ‘the gold standard for safe and secure elections,’ and would continue that work as secretary of state.” [Kansas Reflector, [4/4/25](#)]

ELECTIONS & VOTING

Ballot Harvesting

According to an analysis published by the *Kansas Reflector*, Proctor repeatedly used the phrase “axis of ballot harvesting” on the campaign trail. “As Kansas Rep. Pat Proctor launched his campaign to oversee state elections, he honed in on a signature phrase that would serve his interest of dismissing critics — and reporting by Kansas Reflector — while appealing to far-right voters. His ambiguous ‘axis of ballot harvesting’ serves as a catchall for anyone who challenges his false claims about the hazards of early voting, and signals a vast make-believe conspiracy by foreign nationals to

undermine elections. Proctor frequently repeats the phrase on the campaign trail, and used it in a fundraising message where he suggested a new law could be used to bring criminal or civil charges against Kansas Reflector.” [Kansas Reflector, [6/13/25](#)]

In a fundraising email, Proctor warned of a “shadowy collection of groups I call the ‘axis of ballot harvesting,” and referenced Loud Light, a voting rights organization, and States Newsroom, the parent organization of Kansas Reflector. “In an April 12 fundraising email, Proctor warned of ‘a shadowy collection of groups I call the ‘axis of ballot harvesting.’ His targets included Loud Light and States Newsroom, the parent organization of Kansas Reflector.” [Kansas Reflector, [6/13/25](#)]

Campaign Finance

Proctor introduced legislation that would require any entity “who engages in any activity promoting or opposing” a proposed constitutional amendment to certify that each donor is not a “foreign national,” and that each donor has not received more than \$100,000 from any foreign national within a four-year period. ““As Chair of the House Committee on Elections, in response to this threat, I introduced House Bill 2106 to begin the process of getting foreign money completely out of Kansas politics,” Proctor wrote. ‘This first-step bill requires organizations campaigning for or against constitutional amendments to ensure and certify that they have not accepted foreign money over the preceding four years or face serious civil and criminal consequences.’ He then said the law would prevent ‘foreign nationals like Hansjörg Wyss from improperly influencing Kansas elections.’ HB 2106 requires any entity ‘who engages in any activity promoting or opposing’ a proposed constitutional amendment to certify that each donor is not a ‘foreign national,’ and that each donor has not received more than \$100,000 from any foreign national within a four-year period.” [Kansas Reflector, [6/13/25](#)]

Proctor took a central role among Kansas Republicans who worked to limit authority of the Kansas Governmental Ethics Commission to engage in inquiries of campaign finance violations and election misconduct amid investigations of Republican legislators and campaign workers. “Proctor has taken a central role among Republicans as the Legislature worked to limit authority of the Kansas Governmental Ethics Commission to engage in inquiries of campaign finance violations and election misconduct. That legislative push coincided with the commission’s complex investigation of Republican legislators and campaign workers.” [Kansas Reflector, [4/4/25](#)]

Early Voting

Proctor supported a bill eliminating Kansas’s three-day grace period for advance mail-in ballots. “During the 2025 legislation session, he supported a bill eliminating the state’s three-day grace period for advance mail-in ballots. Gov. Laura Kelly vetoed the bill, because she felt it was important to count ballots postmarked by Election Day that arrived up to three days late through the U.S. Postal Service. Proctor was part of the House supermajority that voted to override the Democratic governor.” [Kansas Reflector, [4/4/25](#)]

In a private Zoom meeting in 2024, Proctor said he would prefer Kansas ended the practice of advance voting. “The voting rights organization Loud Light Civic Action recently released video of a private Zoom meeting last year in which Proctor vowed to push through a bill dropping the three-day grace period. On the same call organized by House Majority Leader Chris Croft with Johnson County Republicans and invite-only guests, Proctor said he would prefer Kansas ended the practice of advance voting.” [Kansas Reflector, [4/4/25](#)]

- **Proctor said “if it was up to me, Election Day would be Election Day.”** “President Donald Trump helped fuel a backlash against mail-in voting in 2020. Even as Trump later came to embrace mailed ballots in his most recent campaign, suspicion of mail voting has lingered among many Republicans, who increasingly want to redirect voting onto Election Day. The top House Republican on election issues, Rep. Pat Proctor of Leavenworth, has said that ‘if it was up to me, Election Day would be Election Day,’ according to a video of remarks he made on a conference call last year. The civic advocacy organization Loud Light, which supports early and mail-in voting, provided the video to The Star and other news organizations.” [Kansas City Star, [2/27/25](#)]

Proctor has called for restrictions on early voting. “In contrast, Proctor calls for restrictions on early voting — even though he acknowledges that he personally enjoys the convenience of voting early.” [Kansas Reflector, [6/13/25](#)]

- **Proctor said he wanted to eliminate early voting and that mail-in ballots should be restricted to military members and those with severe disabilities.** “Proctor also said on the call that he wants to eliminate early voting and that mail-in ballots should be restricted to military members and those with severe disabilities. He tempered his comments by adding that ‘I’ve got to bring 84 people with me so I’m trying to chip away at it’ – a reference to the number of representatives needed in the House to override a veto by the governor.” [Kansas City Star, [2/27/25](#)]

Proctor supported legislation that sought to make it a misdemeanor to transmit more than 10 absentee ballots and forbid gathering or delivering ballots from anyone other than immediate family members. “Under House Bill 2183, the Legislature sought to make it more difficult for individuals or organizations to collect and deliver to election centers the absentee ballots of voters. Republican critics of so-called ballot harvesting sought to make it a misdemeanor — an earlier version called for felony charges — to transmit more than 10 absentee ballots of other people. In addition, the bill forbid anyone from gathering and delivering absentee ballots from anyone other than immediate family members. Rep. Pat Proctor, a Republican from Leavenworth, the state’s existing laws jeopardized credibility of elections if ‘we can’t be sure that the ballots cast at home have the same rules applied to them as the ballots cast at the election box.’” [Kansas Reflector, [4/23/21](#)]

- **Proctor said Kansas’s existing laws jeopardized credibility of elections if “we can’t be sure that the ballots cast at home have the same rules applied to them as the ballots cast at the election box.”** “Under House Bill 2183, the Legislature sought to make it more difficult for individuals or organizations to collect and deliver to election centers the absentee ballots of voters. Republican critics of so-called ballot harvesting sought to make it a misdemeanor — an earlier version called for felony charges — to transmit more than 10 absentee ballots of other people. In addition, the bill forbid anyone from gathering and delivering absentee ballots from anyone other than immediate family members. Rep. Pat Proctor, a Republican from Leavenworth, the state’s existing laws jeopardized credibility of elections if ‘we can’t be sure that the ballots cast at home have the same rules applied to them as the ballots cast at the election box.’” [Kansas Reflector, [4/23/21](#)]

Proctor said voter confidence issues had probably been exacerbated by mail-in and early voting, as well as taking ballots for several days after Election Day. “Proctor chairs the House Elections Committee, which has advanced the legislation – SB 4 – to the House floor. In an interview, the lawmaker said that if he was ‘king for a day,’ everyone would vote on Election Day. ‘I stand by that,’

said Proctor, who indicated the comments he made on video likely occurred last spring. He said that as the committee chair for the past three years, he's been attempting to address problems with voter confidence. He said the issue has probably been exacerbated by mail-in and early voting, as well as taking ballots for several days after Election Day." [Kansas City Star, [2/27/25](#)]

- **However, Proctor added, "But I live in the real world and I understand that people like the convenience of mail-in balloting and I know that people like the convenience of early voting,"** "But I live in the real world and I understand that people like the convenience of mail-in balloting and I know that people like the convenience of early voting," Proctor said." [Kansas City Star, [2/27/25](#)]

Proctor said he stood by his comments on early voting and "in a perfect world, we would all vote on Election Day ... But we don't live in a perfect world," but noted that even he votes early. "Kansas Rep. Pat Proctor, R-Leavenworth, is the most outspoken member of the house on election reform. The secretary of state candidate has declared that 'Election Day is Election Day,' and has said in town halls that he wants to 'chip away' at early voting, ballot boxes and the three-day grace period. When reached for comment on how he reconciles his feelings about early voting and his use of it, Proctor provided a statement that said he stands by his comments, and that "in a perfect world, we would all vote on Election Day.' 'But we don't live in a perfect world. We live in the real world. Some people, like first responders and poll workers, couldn't vote on Election Day even if it was a national holiday. Some folks just have become accustomed to the convenience of early or mail-in voting. Even I vote early, because I am pretty busy on Election Day getting people to the polls and getting out the vote,' Proctor said. 'So, early and mail-in voting aren't going anywhere.'" [Topeka Capital-Journal, [4/28/25](#)]

- **Proctor: "Some people, like first responders and poll workers, couldn't vote on Election Day even if it was a national holiday. Some folks just have become accustomed to the convenience of early or mail-in voting. Even I vote early, because I am pretty busy on Election Day getting people to the polls and getting out the vote."** "Kansas Rep. Pat Proctor, R-Leavenworth, is the most outspoken member of the house on election reform. The secretary of state candidate has declared that 'Election Day is Election Day,' and has said in town halls that he wants to 'chip away' at early voting, ballot boxes and the three-day grace period. When reached for comment on how he reconciles his feelings about early voting and his use of it, Proctor provided a statement that said he stands by his comments, and that 'in a perfect world, we would all vote on Election Day.' 'But we don't live in a perfect world. We live in the real world. Some people, like first responders and poll workers, couldn't vote on Election Day even if it was a national holiday. Some folks just have become accustomed to the convenience of early or mail-in voting. Even I vote early, because I am pretty busy on Election Day getting people to the polls and getting out the vote,' Proctor said. 'So, early and mail-in voting aren't going anywhere.'" [Topeka Capital-Journal, [4/28/25](#)]
- **Proctor: "So, early and mail-in voting aren't going anywhere."** "Kansas Rep. Pat Proctor, R-Leavenworth, is the most outspoken member of the house on election reform. The secretary of state candidate has declared that 'Election Day is Election Day,' and has said in town halls that he wants to 'chip away' at early voting, ballot boxes and the three-day grace period. When reached for comment on how he reconciles his feelings about early voting and his use of it, Proctor provided a statement that said he stands by his comments, and that 'in a perfect world, we would all vote on Election Day.' 'But we don't live in a perfect world. We live in the real world. Some people, like first responders and poll workers, couldn't vote on Election Day even if it was a national holiday. Some folks just have become accustomed to the convenience of

early or mail-in voting. Even I vote early, because I am pretty busy on Election Day getting people to the polls and getting out the vote,' Proctor said. 'So, early and mail-in voting aren't going anywhere.'" [Topeka Capital-Journal, [4/28/25](#)]

Election Integrity

Proctor said Trump's Executive Order on Election Integrity was "a great roadmap on how to restore confidence in our elections across our nation." "Thank you, @realDonaldTrump for never giving up the fight for free & fair elections! The President's Executive Order is a great roadmap on how to restore confidence in our elections across our nation. I am the only candidate in this race that has a proven record of fighting for & implementing the President's Executive Order on Election Integrity. As Chair of the House Elections Committee, I led the override of the Governor's veto of SB4 to repeal the so-called 'three-day grace period', making Election Day once again Election Day in Kansas. As a member of the Board of Advisors to the US Election Assistance Commission (@EACgov), I fought for the implementation of the President's directives on proof of citizenship & voting machines. As your next Secretary of State, I will never stop fighting to Make Elections Great Again! #ksleg" [X, RealPatProctor, [8/18/25](#)]

- **Proctor: "As a member of the Board of Advisors to the US Election Assistance Commission, I fought for the implementation of the President's directives on proof of citizenship & voting machines."** "Thank you, @realDonaldTrump for never giving up the fight for free & fair elections! The President's Executive Order is a great roadmap on how to restore confidence in our elections across our nation. I am the only candidate in this race that has a proven record of fighting for & implementing the President's Executive Order on Election Integrity. As Chair of the House Elections Committee, I led the override of the Governor's veto of SB4 to repeal the so-called 'three-day grace period', making Election Day once again Election Day in Kansas. As a member of the Board of Advisors to the US Election Assistance Commission (@EACgov), I fought for the implementation of the President's directives on proof of citizenship & voting machines. As your next Secretary of State, I will never stop fighting to Make Elections Great Again! #ksleg" [X, RealPatProctor, [8/18/25](#)]

2025: Proctor championed bills that repeal the three-day grace period for mailed ballots, forbade governments from using ranked-choice voting and banned foreign nationals from contributing to constitutional amendments. "This session he's championed bills that repeal the three-day grace period for mailed ballots, forbade governments from using ranked-choice voting and banned foreign nationals from contributing to constitutional amendments. He also supported a constitutional amendment that clarifies that only U.S. citizens are allowed to vote in Kansas elections." [Topeka Capital-Journal, [4/5/25](#)]

2025: Proctor supported a constitutional amendment that clarifies that only U.S. citizens are allowed to vote in Kansas elections. "This session he's championed bills that repeal the three-day grace period for mailed ballots, forbade governments from using ranked-choice voting and banned foreign nationals from contributing to constitutional amendments. He also supported a constitutional amendment that clarifies that only U.S. citizens are allowed to vote in Kansas elections." [Topeka Capital-Journal, [4/5/25](#)]

Proctor said the state is "well on its way" to meeting every benchmark laid out in Trump's executive order, which included: requiring proof of citizenship, complying with the Help America Vote Act, working with the Department of Homeland Security to identify noncitizens who have voted, ending grace periods for mailed ballots, stop foreign contributions and banning lobbying by

any organization receiving federal funds.” “Proctor, in response to an executive order from the Trump administration, said the state is ‘well on its way’ to meeting every benchmark laid out in the order, which includes the following: Requiring proof of citizenship. Comply with the Help America Vote Act, which requires states to standardize voting processes throughout the state. Work with the Department of Homeland Security to identify noncitizens who have voted. End grace periods for mailed ballots. Stop foreign contributions and ban lobbying by any organization receiving federal funds.” [Topeka Capital-Journal, [4/5/25](#)]

January 6th

Proctor: “Joe Biden: ‘It’s important the American people understand what truly happened [on January 6].’ I agree! Like, who shot Ashli Babbitt? And how many FBI agents were in the crowd and when did they know there would be a riot?” [X, RealPatProctor, [6/10/22](#)]

Ranked Choice

2025: Proctor supported legislation that banned ranked choice voting, arguing the added layer of complexity damaged voter confidence. “Kansas lawmakers passed bill banning ranked choice voting, a practice that no Kansas government has used so far. In a ranked choice voting system, voters are asked to select candidates in order of preference rather than picking just one. If a candidate wins a majority of first-preference votes, they’re declared the winner. But if no candidate gets more than 50% of first-preference votes, the candidate with the fewest first-preference votes is eliminated and those that had the eliminated candidate as their first preference are reevaluated to have its second-ranked candidate as the first-preference. If no candidate receives a majority that time, the process is repeated. Rep. Pat Proctor, R-Leavenworth, said the added layer of complexity damages voter confidence. ‘I can think of nothing that is more corrosive of voter confidence than a form of elections that requires a paragraph or a page to describe to a voter how a candidate won,’ Proctor said.” [Topeka Capital-Journal, [3/17/25](#)]

- **Proctor: “I can think of nothing that is more corrosive of voter confidence than a form of elections that requires a paragraph or a page to describe to a voter how a candidate won.”** “Rep. Pat Proctor, R-Leavenworth, said the added layer of complexity damages voter confidence. ‘I can think of nothing that is more corrosive of voter confidence than a form of elections that requires a paragraph or a page to describe to a voter how a candidate won,’ Proctor said.” [Topeka Capital-Journal, [3/17/25](#)]
- **Proctor: “Ranked-choice voting isn’t just ineffective, it subverts the will of voters and undermines voter confidence.”** “This year I carried and passed SB6, banning ranked-choice voting in the state of Kansas. I disagree with this study and I think the NYC mayors race will bear me out. Ranked-choice voting isn’t just ineffective, it subverts the will of voters and undermines voter confidence.#ksleg” [X, RealPatProctor, [6/23/25](#)]

Voter Fraud

Proctor served as chairman of the Kansas House elections committee. “Proctor, of Leavenworth, serves as chairman of the Kansas House elections committee. If elected in November 2026, he would become the state’s top election administrator. The position would be open assuming Secretary of State Scott Schwab continued with a plan to seek the GOP nomination for governor.” [Kansas Reflector, [4/4/25](#)]

- **Proctor was among the Kansas Legislature’s advocates for election reform bills associated with Trump’s election denial claims.** Proctor has been among the Legislature’s advocates for election reform bills associated with President Donald Trump’s unproven assertion his 2020 loss to Democrat Joe Biden was fraudulent. Schwab has generally welcomed modernization of state election law, but maintained Kansas elections were fair and secure.” [Kansas Reflector, [4/4/25](#)]

In the wake of a committee hearing that platformed election misinformation, Proctor said the Kansas Legislature could make changes to improve elections, but “It’s very hard to do when we have a contingent that is not really tethered to facts or evidence of any kind because the folks that are trying to make rational, reasonable arguments to fix stuff get painted with that brush.” “Rep. Pat Proctor, a Leavenworth Republican who chairs the House Elections Committee, said he believed the Kansas Legislature could make changes to improve elections and increase voter confidence. But he said the committee testimony provided incomplete information. ‘It’s very hard to do when we have a contingent that is not really tethered to facts or evidence of any kind because the folks that are trying to make rational, reasonable arguments to fix stuff get painted with that brush,’ Proctor said.”

- **Proctor said he didn’t have an issue with the committee allowing individuals to testify about their concerns about election equipment, but the Legislature needed to hear from vendors, voting rights groups, and county election officials.** “The Kansas Legislature spent more than \$6,600 last week on a committee that promoted misinformation and false claims of election fraud. The two-day meeting was the latest in a string of conspiracy-laced hearings in the GOP-controlled Legislature since 2020, when former President Donald Trump falsely claimed the election was stolen from him. Sen. Mike Thompson, a Shawnee Republican who chaired the committee, handpicked who lawmakers would hear from as they studied elections. He chose a series of activists who lacked expertise on elections and a Florida-based think tank that has pushed for ballot restrictions. He left out local election administrators. [...] Proctor said he didn’t have an issue with the individuals testifying about their concerns about election equipment but that the Legislature also needs to hear from vendors, the League of Women Voters, Loud Light and county election officials. ‘I’ve been going to election commissioners and election officers and county clerks and actually seeing how it’s done,’ Proctor said. ‘I know that some of the concerns and issues that are raised here, they play in the area of people’s ignorance.’ ‘Some people don’t know how the whole system works and a lot of the suspicions and concerns are living in this space where people don’t really know how it works.’ [Kansas City Star, [3/22/24](#)]
- **Proctor on election misinformation: “Some people don’t know how the whole system works and a lot of the suspicions and concerns are living in this space where people don’t really know how it works.”** Proctor said he didn’t have an issue with the individuals testifying about their concerns about election equipment but that the Legislature also needs to hear from vendors, the League of Women Voters, Loud Light and county election officials. ‘I’ve been going to election commissioners and election officers and county clerks and actually seeing how it’s done,’ Proctor said. ‘I know that some of the concerns and issues that are raised here, they play in the area of people’s ignorance.’ ‘Some people don’t know how the whole system works and a lot of the suspicions and concerns are living in this space where people don’t really know how it works.’ [Kansas City Star, [3/22/24](#)]

Loud Light, a voting rights group in Kansas, circulated a video clip of Proctor speaking at a 2024 event in which Proctor implied pro-choice voters were “stealing” the election. “Loud Light circulated on social media a video clip of Proctor speaking at a June 20, 2024, forum on elections that was published on Rumble, the far-right alternative to YouTube. During the forum, Proctor recalled the

fierce campaign ahead of Kansas' August 2022 vote on abortion rights. Kansans overwhelmingly rejected a constitutional amendment to strip those rights, and post-election audits and recounts affirmed the integrity of the election. Illegal voting is exceedingly rare in Kansas, as a federal judge ruled in 2018, as it is in the rest of the U.S. But Proctor said he was going around to polling places in advance of the August 2022 election, 'and there's, like, all these, like, women, like 20- to 30-year-old women who, you know, that you never saw at the polls before, and it's like a long line, got a long line, and they're all there to vote, and it's just the — it's they're stealing it fair and square.'" [Kansas Reflector, [6/13/25](#)]

- **In the clip, Proctor said during the 2022 election, there were “20- to 30-year-old women who, you know, that you never saw at the polls before, and it's like a long line, got a long line, and they're all there to vote, and it's just the — it's they're stealing it fair and square.”** “Loud Light circulated on social media a video clip of Proctor speaking at a June 20, 2024, forum on elections that was published on Rumble, the far-right alternative to YouTube. During the forum, Proctor recalled the fierce campaign ahead of Kansas' August 2022 vote on abortion rights. Kansans overwhelmingly rejected a constitutional amendment to strip those rights, and post-election audits and recounts affirmed the integrity of the election. Illegal voting is exceedingly rare in Kansas, as a federal judge ruled in 2018, as it is in the rest of the U.S. But Proctor said he was going around to polling places in advance of the August 2022 election, 'and there's, like, all these, like, women, like 20- to 30-year-old women who, you know, that you never saw at the polls before, and it's like a long line, got a long line, and they're all there to vote, and it's just the — it's they're stealing it fair and square.'" [Kansas Reflector, [6/13/25](#)]
- **Proctor claimed the video was altered and it would be “really terrible if I'd actually said that.”** “The Loud Light clip was unaltered, but when Proctor was asked during an April 19 town hall in Leavenworth to explain his comments, he replied: 'That'd be really terrible if I'd actually said that.' 'They chopped up a video to make it look like I said that 20- and 30-year-old women were stealing the election by voting, or something like that,' Proctor said." [Kansas Reflector, [6/13/25](#)]

Proctor criticized voting rights groups who challenged his proposal in legislative hearings and in court, such as Loud Light, Kansas Appleseed, League of Women Voters and ACLU. “And after launching his campaign for secretary of state in early April, Proctor has criticized voting rights groups — Loud Light, Kansas Appleseed, League of Women Voters and the American Civil Liberties Union of Kansas — who challenge his proposals in legislative hearings and in court.” [Kansas Reflector, [6/13/25](#)]

JOURNALISM

In response to a request for comment, Proctor told a *Kansas Reflector* employee “you are a partisan hack and your so-called ‘newspaper’ is a woke, leftist propaganda rag.” “Instead, Proctor responded with the following statement: ‘Here’s a quote for you: ‘You are a partisan hack and your so-called ‘newspaper’ is a woke, leftist propaganda rag.’ Thanks for the opportunity to comment.’ The response is consistent with Proctor’s frequent criticism — including personal attacks on social media — of journalists who accurately report on him.” [Kansas Reflector, [6/13/25](#)]

According to a Kansas Reflector analysis, Proctor frequently criticized journalists who reported on him, including personal attacks on social media. “Instead, Proctor responded with the following statement: ‘Here’s a quote for you: ‘You are a partisan hack and your so-called ‘newspaper’ is a woke, leftist propaganda rag.’ Thanks for the opportunity to comment.’ The response is consistent with

Proctor's frequent criticism — including personal attacks on social media — of journalists who accurately report on him.” [Kansas Reflector, [6/13/25](#)]

In a fundraising email, Proctor accused Kansas Reflector of being “part of a vast, dark money, left-wing propaganda machine called States Newsroom,” which he said received funding from foreign sources like Swiss businessman Hansjörg Wyss. “Proctor’s email said Kansas Reflector ‘is part of a vast, dark money, left-wing propaganda machine called States Newsroom.’ He said ‘a significant percentage of that organization’s funding’ comes from foreign sources, including the Swiss businessman Hansjörg Wyss.” [Kansas Reflector, [6/13/25](#)]

LGBTQ

2023: Proctor was criticized by a Kansas family for publishing an elementary school student’s drawing of a rainbow flag in his political newsletter without permission. “In 2023, Proctor was criticized by a Leavenworth family for publishing without permission in his political newsletter a photograph of an elementary school student’s drawing of a rainbow flag. Proctor alleged the drawing was evidence educators in schools were indoctrinating children on LGBTQ politics. Proctor asserted the artwork was part of a ‘radical, woke agenda.’” [Kansas Reflector, [4/4/25](#)]

- **Proctor claimed the drawing was evidence educators in schools were indoctrinating children on LGBTQ politics, calling it part of a “radical, woke agenda.”** “In 2023, Proctor was criticized by a Leavenworth family for publishing without permission in his political newsletter a photograph of an elementary school student’s drawing of a rainbow flag. Proctor alleged the drawing was evidence educators in schools were indoctrinating children on LGBTQ politics. Proctor asserted the artwork was part of a ‘radical, woke agenda.’” [Kansas Reflector, [4/4/25](#)]

Proctor supported legislation that banned transgender athletes from competing in women’s school sports. “I was honored this week to join the entire Leavenworth County House delegation in casting my vote on your behalf in favor of Fairness in Women's Sports. This bill is not about discriminating against trans people. This bill is about providing a fair playing field for girls and women competing for scholarships and championships. It's about following the science: biological males have distinct strength and speed advantages over biological females. It's basic biology and physics!” [X, RealPatProctor, [4/8/23](#)]

- **Proctor said “I am fighting to protect girls' and women's sports. This isn’t about discriminating against trans women; it's about basic fairness. People who grew up as biological males have an unfair advantage in competing for scholarships and championships against biological women.”** [X, RealPatProctor, [2/2/23](#)]

Proctor shared images that claimed “trans militants” had “defaced the sidewalk” outside of a restaurant with hateful comments, in reference to messages written in chalk. “Eyewitness caught trans Satanist Tristan ‘Rachel’ Stout and two other trans militants in the act! The way to respond to this is not anger. It is to get out and vote on November 7 for Conservative city and school board officials who will protect women and kids and stand up for local small businesses from these radicals and their intimidation!” [X, RealPatProctor [7/29/23](#)]

ABORTION

Proctor: “The abortion industry will stop at nothing to keep Kansas a no-holds-barred abortion state.” “The abortion industry will stop at nothing to keep Kansas a no-holds-barred abortion state. Every single element of their latest text campaign is a lie. The Value Them Both Amendment is the ONLY way to preserve current regulation. And it doesn’t ban IVF or anything else.” [X, RealPatProctor, [7/28/22](#)]

Proctor: “Whether Roe v. Wade is overturned or not, Kansas will remain a destination for the most extreme abortions if we don't pass the Value Them Both Amendment and restore our rights, stolen from Kansans by the Kansas Supreme Court, to regulate the abortion industry.” [X, RealPatProctor, [5/3/22](#)]