

STATE OF KANSAS

Office of the Attorney General

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Curt T. Schneider
Attorney General

July 18, 1978

ATTORNEY GENERAL OPINION NO. 78-235

Mr. Sherman A. Parks, Jr.
Deputy Assistant Secretary of State
Office of the Secretary of State
2nd Floor - State Capitol
Topeka, Kansas 66612

Re: Elections--Registration--When Closed

Synopsis: When registration is closed pursuant to K.S.A. 25-2311(a), no person may be entitled to register to vote for any purpose during that period.

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Dear Mr. Parks:

K.S.A. 25-2311(a) directs that county election officers shall provide for the registration of voters at one or more places on all days except those days and periods of time specifically enumerated therein. Thus, for example, the county election officer shall not provide for the registration of voters during the "twenty (20) days preceding the primary and general state elections." K.S.A. 25-2311(c) states thus in pertinent part:

"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."

You advise that the question has been raised whether K.S.A. 25-2311(c) prohibits the registration of voters during the period

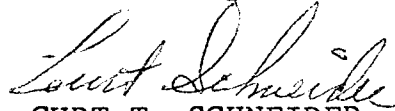
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of July 11, 1978, until August 2, 1978, or whether a prospective voter may register during this period for the general election in November, 1978. In my judgment, the language of the statute directing that registration shall be closed during the twenty days preceding the primary and general state elections forbids the registration of any voter for any purpose during that period. If registration is to be permitted during that period for future elections other than the immediate election for which registration is directed to be closed, specific statutory authority must be enacted. Under the existing law, no person may register to vote in any election during that period.

Yours truly,


CURT T. SCHNEIDER
Attorney General

CTS:JRM:kj