

January 22, 2024

The Honorable Pat Proctor, Chairperson
House Committee on Elections
300 SW 10th Avenue, Room 218-N
Topeka, Kansas 66612

Dear Representative Proctor:

SUBJECT: Fiscal Note for HB 2504 by House Committee on Elections

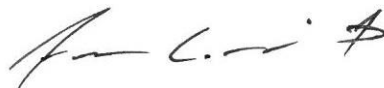
In accordance with KSA 75-3715a, the following fiscal note concerning HB 2504 is respectfully submitted to your committee.

Currently, after an election, county election officials conduct a postelection manual audit of each vote cast in an election. HB 2504 would require that only physical paper ballots be used for the purposes of a postelection audit. A corresponding ballot image would not be considered the same as the physical paper ballot.

The Secretary of State would use existing resources to provide training and update manuals for county election officials; update the agency's website; update public documents and information; and work with media, political parties, candidates, and the public to ensure knowledge of the change to election audits contained in HB 2504. Any fiscal effect associated with HB 2504 is not reflected in *The FY 2025 Governor's Budget Report*.

The Kansas Association of Counties indicates that using a paper process instead of the current automated process for auditing ballots would require more staff time and resources in the county election offices across the state. However, the association is not able to estimate the fiscal effect.

Sincerely,



Adam C. Proffitt
Director of the Budget

cc: Jay Hall, Kansas Association of Counties
Sandy Tompkins, Office of the Secretary of State