

February 9, 2021

The Honorable Larry Alley, Chairperson
Senate Committee on Federal and State Affairs
Statehouse, Room 136-E
Topeka, Kansas 66612

Dear Senator Alley:

SUBJECT: Fiscal Note for SB 125 by Senate Committee on Federal and State Affairs

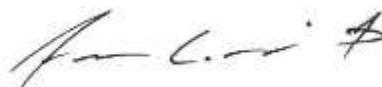
In accordance with KSA 75-3715a, the following fiscal note concerning SB 125 is respectfully submitted to your committee.

SB 125 would amend the Mail Ballot Election Act to include mail ballot elections for propositions to amend the Kansas Constitution and the concurrent resolution which directs the Secretary to submit the proposed amendment to the electors of the state at a special mail ballot election. For an election to amend the Kansas Constitution, the election board of each county would be required to make the original canvass of all ballots cast in that county.

According to the Secretary of State, enactment of SB 125 would have no fiscal effect on the agency. The Secretary indicates, however, that enactment of the bill could have a fiscal effect on the budgets of each of the 105 Kansas counties as a new type of election would be added to elections that are authorized to be conducted entirely by mail. Those elections could be an added expense not covered in a county's regular election budget.

The Kansas Association of Counties indicates that enactment of SB 125 would initially require a great deal of voter education to ensure that the voters understand the voting process. It is unclear how much that would cost or how long that would need to continue in order to be confident that access to voting would not be limited or decreased for any groups. Enactment of the bill could eventually save counties money if they did not need to have as many polling places.

Sincerely,



Adam Proffitt
Director of the Budget

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