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Laura Kelly, Governor

February 14, 2023

The Honorable Emil Bergquist, Chairperson House Committee on Local Government 300 SW 10th Avenue, Room 281-N Topeka, Kansas 66612

Dear Representative Bergquist:

SUBJECT: Fiscal Note for HB 2343 by House Committee on Agriculture and Natural

Resources Budget

In accordance with KSA 75-3715a, the following fiscal note concerning HB 2343 is respectfully submitted to your committee.

HB 2343 would allow cities, counties, and school districts the option to use internet websites to publish certain legal notices. The official publication source would be designated by resolution. The bill would require legal notices to be published (1) in accordance with any time, date and recurrence requirements that are statutorily imposed as though the publication is made in a newspaper; and (2) in each city, county or area that is required to be provided a legal notice pursuant to law. The bill clarifies that these provisions would not affect any law that requires a person or entity to publish a legal notice both in a newspaper and on a website. If a website is selected as the official publication source, the website must be accessible to the general public and not password protected; may not charge fees for the general public to access legal notices, advertisements or publications posted on the website; and document and display the publication date of each legal notice, advertisement or publication.

The Kansas Department of Education indicates the enactment of HB 2343 would have a negligible fiscal effect on school districts. The Kansas Association of Counties indicates the bill's enactment would decrease expenditures for counties related to newspaper publications. The League of Kansas Municipalities indicates the enactment of HB 2343 would reduce expenditures for cities, but the amount of savings would vary by city depending on how frequently their actions trigger publication requirements if cities are allowed to publish ordinances and other notices on a

website as opposed to being printed in the local newspaper. Any fiscal effect associated with HB 2343 is not reflected in *The FY 2024 Governor's Budget Report*.

Sincerely,

Adam Proffitt

Director of the Budget

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cc: Wendi Stark, League of Kansas Municipalities Jay Hall, Kansas Association of Counties Craig Neuenswander, Department of Education