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Laura Kelly, Governor

February 16, 2024

The Honorable Mike Thompson, Chairperson Senate Committee on Federal and State Affairs 300 SW 10th Avenue, Room 144-S Topeka, Kansas 66612

Dear Senator Thompson:

SUBJECT: Fiscal Note for SB 374 by Senate Committee on Federal and State Affairs

In accordance with KSA 75-3715a, the following fiscal note concerning SB 374 is respectfully submitted to your committee.

SB 374 would allow a voter to declare or change their political party or voter affiliation on the day of a primary election. Under current election law, a voter is prohibited from changing their political party or affiliation during the time from the candidate filing deadline through the time when the primary election results are certified by the Secretary of State.

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 in allowing a voter's party or affiliation to be changed on the day of a primary election. The agency also indicates SB 374 could have a fiscal effect on county election office budgets. The election offices would have to increase the number of ballots of either party in the event a large number of voters decide to change their party or affiliation on the day of an election. However, the agency does not have an accurate estimate of increased ballot production costs due to voters changing their party or affiliation on an election day. Any fiscal effect associated with SB 374 is not reflected in *The FY 2025 Governor's Budget Report*.

The Kansas Association of Counties indicates SB 374 could increase production costs for county election offices to print additional ballots to make sure there are enough ballots available

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in the event a lot of voters change their party or affiliation on the day of an election. The Association is unable to estimate the fiscal effect on the county election offices.

Adam C. Proffitt Director of the Budget

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