February 13, 2012

The Honorable Terrie Huntington, Chairperson
Senate Committee on Ethics and Elections
Statehouse, Room 235-E
Topeka, Kansas  66612

Dear Senator Huntington:

SUBJECT:   Fiscal Note for SB 389 by Senate Committee on Ethics and Elections

In accordance with KSA 75-3715a, the following fiscal note concerning SB 389 is respectfully submitted to your committee.

SB 389 would require the Office of the Secretary of State to develop a voter education program, designed to reach all persons eligible to vote in Kansas, no fewer than 60 days prior to the 2012 general election. The program would be required to:

1. Contact at least 1.75 million eligible Kansas voters through direct-mail voter contacts;

2. Contact each household in the state with at least one mailing of the voter education materials;

3. Launch a mass media campaign with at least 25,000 television and radio public service announcements on a sufficient number of stations and sufficient times to reach the broadest possible Kansas audience;

4. Make maximum use of media through press events and availabilities;

5. Engage in an aggressive social media campaign of voter education;

6. Make all education materials and communications comprehensive in its explanation of voter identification requirements; and

7. Be easy for the average person to understand.

SB 389 would take effect after its publication in the Kansas Register.
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<th>Estimated State Fiscal Effect</th>
<th>FY 2012 SGF</th>
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The Office of the Secretary of State estimates that SB 389 would increase its expenditures from the State General Fund by $1,498,415 in FY 2013. The estimate includes $728,000 to print and mail one-time direct mail post cards to 1.75 million eligible voters; $470,415 to print and mail one-time direct mail contacts by envelope to 1,112,096 households; and $300,000 to advertise the program through television, radio, public service announcements, newspapers, and internet promotions. The Office indicates other costs associated with implementing the provisions in this bill could be absorbed within existing resources. Any fiscal effect associated with SB 389 is not reflected in The FY 2013 Governor’s Budget Report.

Sincerely,

Steven J. Anderson, CPA, MBA
Director of the Budget

cc: Desiree Taliaferro, Secretary of State’s Office