February 27, 2013

The Honorable Scott Schwab, Chairperson
House Committee on Elections
Statehouse, Room 151-S
Topeka, Kansas 66612

Dear Representative Schwab:

   SUBJECT: Fiscal Note for HB 2227 by House Committee on Elections

   In accordance with KSA 75-3715a, the following fiscal note concerning HB 2227 is respectfully submitted to your committee.

   HB 2227 would move all municipal elections for extension districts, cities, boards of public utilities, water districts, drainage districts, irrigation districts, unified school districts, and community colleges from the spring of odd-numbered years to the fall of odd-numbered years beginning January 1, 2014. Primary elections would be held on the first Tuesday in August and general elections would be held on the Tuesday following the first Monday in November. The bill would establish the dates terms would commence; the amount of time in which elected members would hold their respective office; and the times when applications for advance voting ballots to be mailed to voters must be filed.

   The bill would also allow cities to adopt the following forms of government by ordinance: commission, mayor-council, commission-manager, mayor-council-manager, council-manager, or any other form of government authorized by law or by ordinance or charter ordinance of the city. In addition, the bill would require the county election officer to prepare the official primary election ballot for municipal elections held in August of odd-numbered years and allow the Secretary of State to provide technical assistance. The Secretary would be allowed to adopt rules and regulations to ensure orderly primary elections in both even-numbered and odd-numbered years. Finally, HB 2227 would alter the format of ballot rotation to require candidates’ names to be listed in alphabetical order according to the candidates’ surnames.

   The Office of the Secretary of State indicates that the costs associated with training county election offices, which would be necessitated with the passage of HB 2227, could be
absorbed within existing resources. Further, the Office indicates that any fiscal effect on county election offices resulting from the passage of this bill would be negligible.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

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

cc: Courtney Canfield, Secretary of State’s Office
    Melissa Wangemann, KAC
    Larry Baer, LKM