

February 12, 2014

The Honorable Mitch Holmes, Chairperson
Senate Committee on Ethics and Elections
Statehouse, Room 237-E
Topeka, Kansas 66612

Dear Senator Holmes:

SUBJECT: Fiscal Note for SB 343 by Senate Committee on Ethics and Elections

In accordance with KSA 75-3715a, the following fiscal note concerning SB 343 is respectfully submitted to your committee.

SB 343 would require all governmental entities in the state to file annual reports of public funds used for the purpose of lobbying. Governmental entities that do not intend to spend public funds on lobbying would file an affidavit of exemption. The Governmental Ethics Commission would be responsible for prescribing the reporting form to be used, and the reports would be available to the public on a searchable website maintained by the Secretary of State. The bill would also prohibit public funds from being expended for a direct or indirect gift or a campaign contribution to any elected official, officer, or employee of the state or any municipality.

According to the Office of the Secretary of State, the functions required by SB 343 are already performed by the agency for campaign finance reports filed under current law. Passage of the bill would greatly increase the number of reports, but the agency anticipates that it could perform the necessary work within existing resources. The Governmental Ethics Commission indicates that any costs related to creating the report form required by passage of SB 343 could be handled within existing resources. According to the Kansas Association of Counties, passage of SB 343 would have no fiscal effect on Kansas counties or cities.

The League of Kansas Municipalities expects that passage of the bill would increase costs for Kansas cities. The League indicates that the number of associations that a city may belong to or pay dues to on behalf of its employees can be numerous. In many cases, the city will have no idea whether the dues being paid to an association or organization are related to

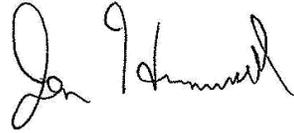
The Honorable Mitch Holmes, Chairperson

February 12, 2014

Page 2—SB 343

lobbying, but would need to spend time gathering this information and filing reports. The League is not, however, able to estimate what the additional cost would be.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jon Hummell". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "J" and "H".

Jon Hummell,
Interim Director of the Budget

cc: Carol Williams, Governmental Ethics
Desiree Taliaferro, Secretary of State's Office