February 24, 2015

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 177 by Senator Hensley

In accordance with KSA 75-3715a, the following fiscal note concerning SB 177 is respectfully submitted to your committee.

SB 177 would prohibit a county election officer or the Secretary of State from denying an application for voter registration for lack of evidence of citizenship until the Division of Vehicles has an operational system to verify the citizenship of an applicant for the renewal of a driver’s license. If a county election officer or the Secretary of State receives affirmative evidence that an applicant is not a citizen, the county election officer or the Secretary of State would be required to deny the application.

The Office of the Secretary of State indicates passage of SB 177 could temporarily reduce the number of applicants that need to be contacted by county election offices for proof of citizenship requirements until the Division of Vehicles’ driver’s license renewal system is in place, but any fiscal effect would be negligible. The Department of Revenue indicates the bill could create additional administrative costs once the Real ID program is operational, which is not expected to occur until calendar year 2017. Any fiscal effect associated with SB 177 is not reflected in The FY 2016 Governor’s Budget Report.

Sincerely,

Shawn Sullivan,
Director of the Budget

cc: Jack Smith, Department of Revenue
Melissa Wangemann, Association of Counties
Desiree Taliaferro, Secretary of State’s Office