

February 4, 2016

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 333 by Senators Hensley, et al.

In accordance with KSA 75-3715a, the following fiscal note concerning SB 333 is respectfully submitted to your committee.

SB 333 would amend existing law concerning voter registration in Kansas. On an application to register to vote, the bill would add a box to check to indicate whether or not the applicant was born in Kansas and a space to provide relevant information to substantiate that the applicant was born in Kansas. An applicant born in Kansas would not be required to present proof of citizenship. Instead, the county election officer or Secretary of State would be required to forward the substantiating information to the Kansas Registrar of Vital Statistics who would then verify the citizenship status of the applicant. The applicant would not be charged for this verification.

According to the Kansas Secretary of State, passage of SB 333 would require the agency to make changes to the existing online voter registration; however, it is expected that the cost of those changes would be minimal and could be handled within existing resources. The Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE) reports that passage of SB 333 would result in increased time spent by staff verifying and certifying the fact of Kansas birth. Currently, KDHE processes an average of 1,500 records per month. The Secretary of State pays for staff time, which averages \$160 per month (\$40 per hour X 4 hours). The estimated number of voter registrants for FY 2017 is 50,000. At the same rate, the Secretary of State could expect to pay an additional \$5,333 annually. Any fiscal effect associated with SB 333 is not reflected in *The FY 2017 Governor's Budget Report*.

Sincerely,



Shawn Sullivan,
Director of the Budget

cc: Aaron Dunkel, Health & Environment
Desiree Taliaferro, Secretary of State's Office