

SESSION OF 2018

SUPPLEMENTAL NOTE ON HOUSE BILL NO. 2604

As Amended by Senate Committee on Ethics,
Elections and Local Government

Brief*

HB 2604, as amended, would require the Office of the Secretary of State (Office) to publish precinct level primary and general election results for all statewide offices, state legislative offices, and federal offices on the Office's official website no later than 30 days after the final canvass of the election has been completed.

The bill would be in effect upon publication in the *Kansas Register*.

Background

The bill was introduced at the request of Representative Esau. In the House Committee on Elections hearing, a private citizen provided neutral testimony, stating he supported requiring the Office to publish precinct-level election results. However, he had three concerns with the bill: federal election results were not included; the bill's language of "as soon as practicable" is subjective; and the format in which data would be published was not specified. No other testimony was provided.

The House Committee amended the bill to include primary and general election results for federal offices, and to specify the Office must publish the results on its official website no later than 30 days after the final canvass of the election has been completed.

*Supplemental notes are prepared by the Legislative Research Department and do not express legislative intent. The supplemental note and fiscal note for this bill may be accessed on the Internet at <http://www.kslegislature.org>

In the Senate Committee on Ethics, Elections and Local Government hearing, Representative Esau provided proponent testimony, stating the Office of the Secretary of State had provided precinct-level election results for many years, until 2010, and stressing the importance of providing this information to the public. A private citizen provided written-only proponent testimony. No other testimony was provided.

The Senate Committee amended the bill to change the effective date from publication in the statute book to publication in the *Kansas Register*.

According to the fiscal note on the bill, as introduced, which was prepared by the Division of the Budget (Division) after the House Committee took action on the bill, the Division estimates any additional responsibilities resulting from enactment of the bill could be performed within the existing budget resources of the Office of the Secretary of State. Any fiscal effect associated with enactment of the bill is not reflected in *The FY 2019 Governor's Budget Report*.