

February 20, 2020

The Honorable Bill Sutton, Chairperson
House Committee on Elections
Statehouse, Room 274C-W
Topeka, Kansas 66612

Dear Representative Sutton:

SUBJECT: Fiscal Note for HB 2659 by House Committee on Elections

In accordance with KSA 75-3715a, the following fiscal note concerning HB 2659 is respectfully submitted to your committee.

HB 2659 would amend the Mail Ballot Election Act to include the requirement that in order for a mail ballot to be counted, the county election officer must receive the voter's ballot by the last delivery of mail by the United States Postal Service (USPS) on the third day following the date of the election. The ballot must be postmarked or otherwise indicated by the USPS to have been mailed on or before the close of the polls on the election date. If the ballot is personally delivered by the elector, it must be returned to the office of the county election officer before 5:00 p.m. on the date of the election.

According to the Secretary of State, enactment of HB 2659 would require the agency to update training materials provided to county election officers and information materials provided to the general public. The agency indicates it could make these changes during the annual materials' updates at no additional cost. The Kansas Association of Counties reports that as long as only ballots received prior to the official canvass can be counted, there should be little or no fiscal effect on Kansas counties.

Sincerely,



Larry L. Campbell
Director of the Budget

cc: Jay Hall, Association of Counties
Sandy Tompkins, Office of the Secretary of State