

SESSION OF 2019

SUPPLEMENTAL NOTE ON HOUSE BILL NO. 2176

As Recommended by House Committee on
Elections

Brief*

HB 2176 would amend law concerning the collection of ballots by prohibiting persons from collecting voted or unvoted ballots, or otherwise possessing such ballots, if not authorized by law.

The bill would further prohibit persons from collecting advance voted or unvoted ballots from the county election officer to the voter. Continuing law prohibits intercepting, interfering with, or delaying the transmission of advance voting ballots from the county election officer to the voter.

The bill would establish a violation of this provision to be a level 9, nonperson felony.

Background

The bill was introduced in the House Committee on Elections at the request of Representative Sutton.

In the House Committee hearing, no testimony was provided on the bill.

According to the fiscal note prepared by the Division of the Budget, the Office of the Secretary of State (Secretary) indicates enactment of the bill would increase expenditures for the Secretary by an estimated amount of \$10,000 in each of the next two fiscal years. The expenditures would be to

*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>

update training and educational materials and to provide training to local county election officials, law enforcement officials, and members of the general public. The Secretary indicates these costs could be managed with existing resources.

The Kansas Association of Counties reports enactment of the bill would have no fiscal effect on Kansas counties.

The Kansas Sentencing Commission (Commission) indicates enactment of the bill could have an effect on prison admissions, prison bed space, and workload of the Commission, but these effects could not be determined from the data. Any fiscal effect associated with enactment of the bill is not reflected in *The FY 2020 Governor's Budget Report*.