

March 13, 2012

The Honorable Scott Schwab, Chairperson
House Committee on Elections
Statehouse, Room 561-W
Topeka, Kansas 66612

Dear Representative Schwab:

SUBJECT: Fiscal Note for HB 2641 by Representative LeDoux

In accordance with KSA 75-3715a, the following fiscal note concerning HB 2641 is respectfully submitted to your committee.

HB 2641 would require that county appraisers be elected instead of appointed beginning with the general election in calendar year 2016. The county appraisers would serve four-year terms and would be required to execute and file with the county treasurer a corporate surety bond, conditioned on the faithful performance of the duties of office. The boards of county commissioners would be required to fix the amount of the bond, but it could be no less than \$10,000. A person would be required to be a certified Kansas appraiser to be eligible for nomination or election as county appraiser. The bill outlines the procedure for appointing a county appraiser should a vacancy in office occur. The bill would eliminate the district appraisers and amend statutes related to county appraisers to reflect the county appraiser as an elected office rather than appointed. The bill would also amend various elections statutes to add county appraisers to the list of elected offices. The bill would take effect July 1.

The Department of Revenue estimates that HB 2641 could increase expenditures in the Division of Property Valuation (PVD) beginning in FY 2016 to the extent that the Division is required to provide someone to perform the functions of county appraiser when there is no one qualified and elected to hold the office of county appraiser; and in instances when a county appraiser is elected, but does not possess much mass appraisal experience. The Department indicates that this could create a major fiscal effect for PVD depending on the number of counties requiring assistance and the time period over which the Division's assistance would be required.

The Secretary of State estimates that the provisions of HB 2641 would increase expenditures to counties by \$15,949 every four years beginning in FY 2016. The Secretary of State indicates these costs include \$8,505 to program voting machines in all 105 counties; and

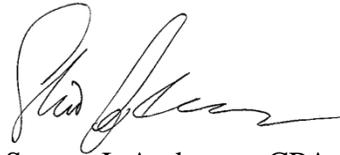
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\$7,444 to prepare audio ballots for all 105 counties. The Secretary of State indicates that counties would also assume additional costs to print ballots, but the amount would be negligible. Any fiscal effect associated with HB 2641 is not reflected in *The FY 2013 Governor's Budget Report*.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Steven J. Anderson", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Steven J. Anderson, CPA, MBA
Director of the Budget

cc: Desiree Taliaferro, Secretary of State's Office
Melissa Wangemann, Kansas Association of Counties
Larry Baer, League of Kansas Municipalities
Derek Kreifels, Treasurer's Office
Janis Lee, Tax Appeals