

February 27, 2013

The Honorable Dennis Pyle, Chairperson
Senate Committee on Ethics, Elections and Local Government
Statehouse, Room 234-E
Topeka, Kansas 66612

Dear Senator Pyle:

SUBJECT: Fiscal Note for SB 145 by Senate Committee on Ways and Means

In accordance with KSA 75-3715a, the following fiscal note concerning SB 145 is respectfully submitted to your committee.

SB 145 would move municipal elections for extension districts, cities, boards of public utilities, water districts, drainage districts, irrigation districts, unified school districts, and community colleges from the spring to the fall of odd-numbered years. A primary election would be held in August and a general election would be held in November. The bill would establish the dates terms would commence; the amount of time in which elected members would hold his or her respective office; and the times when applications for advance voting ballots to be mailed to voters must be filed. The bill would make all municipal elections partisan rather than nonpartisan.

The bill would also allow cities to adopt the following forms of government by ordinance: commission, mayor-council, commission-manager, mayor-council-manager, council-manager, or any other form of government authorized by law or by ordinance or charter ordinance of the city. In addition, the bill would require the county election officer to prepare the official primary election ballot for municipal elections held in August of odd-numbered years and allow the Secretary of State to provide technical assistance. The bill would allow the Secretary of State to establish the arrangement of offices on the general ballot for municipal officer upon consultation with the county election officers. Finally, the Secretary of State would be allowed to adopt rules and regulations to ensure orderly primary and general elections in both even-numbered and odd-numbered years.

The Office of the Secretary of State indicates that the costs associated with training county election offices, which would be necessitated with the passage of SB 145, could be absorbed within existing resources. However, the Office estimates that moving statewide municipal primary elections from February or March in odd-numbered years to August in odd-numbered years would increase ballot production costs for county election offices by \$1.5

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million in FY 2015, though moving elections to even-numbered years would be even more costly. The Office indicates that the costs borne by county election offices to train poll workers could be absorbed within the counties' existing resources.

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: Courtney Canfield, Secretary of State's Office
Melissa Wangemann, KAC
Larry Baer, LKM