

January 29, 2015

The Honorable Mitch Holmes, Chairperson
Senate Committee on Ethics and Elections
Statehouse, Room 237-E
Topeka, Kansas 66612

Dear Senator Holmes:

SUBJECT: Fiscal Note for SB 79 by Senate Committee on Ethics and Elections

In accordance with KSA 75-3715a, the following fiscal note concerning SB 79 is respectfully submitted to your committee.

Under current law, the Office of the Secretary of State is required to publish any proposal to amend the *Kansas Constitution* that is adopted by the Kansas Legislature in one newspaper in each county of the state where a newspaper is published. The proposed amendment is required to be published once each week for three consecutive weeks immediately preceding the election at which the proposition is to be submitted. SB 79 would require the proposition to be published only once in the 14 days immediately preceding the election. SB 79 would also require the Office to publish such resolutions on the official websites of the Secretary of State and the State of Kansas for 30 days after final adoption by both houses of the Kansas Legislature through the date of the election. The bill would require all costs associated with publishing proposed constitutional amendments to be paid from the State General Fund.

The Office of the Secretary of State estimates SB 79 would increase State General Fund expenditures any time a proposal to amend the *Kansas Constitution* is adopted by both houses of the Kansas Legislature. The Office indicates publication costs for concurrent resolutions under consideration in 2015 range from \$17,800 to \$414,300. If any of those resolutions passes, the Secretary of State will request a State General Fund appropriation for FY 2017 to reimburse the publication costs. However, the Office estimates the publication costs and State General Fund requests would decrease if SB 79 were enacted. Any fiscal effect associated with SB 79 is not reflected in *The FY 2016 Governor's Budget Report*.

Sincerely,



Shawn Sullivan,
Director of the Budget

cc: Desiree Taliaferro, Secretary of State's Office