Adam C. Proffitt, Director



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Laura Kelly, Governor

February 19, 2025

The Honorable Michael Fagg, Chairperson Senate Committee on Utilities 300 SW 10th Avenue, Room 548-S Topeka, Kansas 66612

Dear Senator Fagg:

SUBJECT: Fiscal Note for SB 93 by Senate Committee on Utilities

In accordance with KSA 75-3715a, the following fiscal note concerning SB 93 is respectfully submitted to your committee.

SB 93 would require each of the Kansas Corporation Commissioners to stand for statewide election and serve four-year terms. The bill would require the current Commissioners' terms to have staggered expirations, with the first Commissioner's term expiring in January 2027 and the second and third Commissioners' terms expiring in January 2029. The bill would require an election to be held the year before any Commissioners' term expires to elect a new Commissioner. Enactment of the bill would require the Governor to appoint and the Senate to confirm the Chairperson of the Commission for a one-year term. The bill would allow no Chairperson to serve more than two consecutive terms as Chairperson of the Commission and would not allow for all Commissioners to belong to the same political party.

The Kansas Secretary of State indicates that enactment of the bill would have a negligible fiscal effect on the administration of elections that could be managed within existing resources. If enacted, SB 93 would require the Secretary of State's Office to provide training and update manuals for county election officials; update the agency website, documents and information provided to the public; and work with the media, political parties, candidates, and the public to ensure knowledge of the elections for members of the Kansas Corporation Commission. It also anticipates that enactment of SB 93 would increase the budgets for county election officials in all 105 counties by an estimate of \$75,000 to \$100,000 statewide due to additional races on the ballot, including the additional expense of legal publications, printing of ballots, ballot programming of voting equipment, and programming of audio voting equipment for persons with a disability occurring with each additional race on the ballot.

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The Kansas Corporation Commission and the Office of the Attorney General indicate that enactment of the bill would not have a fiscal effect on their operations. Any fiscal effect associated with SB 93 is not reflected in *The FY 2026 Governor's Budget Report*.

Sincerely,

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Adam C. Proffitt Director of the Budget

cc: Sandy Tompkins, Office of the Secretary of State Lynn Retz, Kansas Corporation Commission Matt Bingesser, Office of the Attorney General