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STATE OF KANSAS

Senate Committee on Ethics, Elections and Local Government

Request for Bill Introductions

Brad Bryant
Deputy Assistant Secretary of State

January 16, 2013

Mr. Chairman and Members of the Committee:

The Secretary of State requests introduction of two committee bills.

1. Party affiliation bill

This bill would move the deadline for voters to change their party affiliations to the 21st day before an election, which would coincide with the voter registration deadline. The bill also would prohibit any voter from changing his/her affiliation more than once in a 90-day period.

2. Stopping Election Crimes by Uniting Regulation and Enforcement (SECURE) Act

This bill would:

- clarify the definitions of certain election crimes: voting without being qualified, voting more than once, false impersonation of a voter, election tampering, and election bribery
- tighten the language of the declaration signed by each voter on the poll book at the polling place
- elevate the penalties for certain election crimes from misdemeanors to felonies
- grant authority to the Secretary of State to prosecute election crimes

Thank you for your consideration.