February 25, 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 239 by Senate Committee on Ethics and Elections

In accordance with KSA 75-3715a, the following fiscal note concerning SB 239 is respectfully submitted to your committee.

Current law requires a presidential preference primary election to be held every four years. On or before November 1 of the preceding year, the Secretary of State is required to certify to the Governor, to the Chief Clerk of the House of Representatives, and to the Secretary of the Senate, a common date in the next succeeding year on which at least five other states will hold a presidential preference primary election, a delegate or mass convention or a caucus of qualified voters at which delegates to a national convention are selected. The next presidential preference primary election is scheduled to be held in calendar year 2016 and the date on which the aforementioned certification must be made is November 1, 2015. SB 239 would delay the election until calendar year 2020 and the certification to November 1, 2019.

The Office of the Secretary of State estimates the passage of SB 239 would reduce its FY 2016 expenditures by approximately $1.8 million to conduct a presidential preference primary. The estimate includes the cost to reimburse county election offices for the expense to conduct the primary and the cost to publish notice of the primary in a newspaper in each county in the state. The Office indicates such cost would be requested in the form of a State General Fund appropriation as the expenditures required are currently not reflected in *The FY 2016 Governor's Budget Report*.

Sincerely,

Shawn Sullivan,
Director of the Budget

cc: Melissa Wangemann, Association of Counties
     Desiree Taliaferro, Secretary of State's Office