

February 1, 2017

The Honorable Keith Esau, Chairperson  
House Committee on Elections  
Statehouse, Room 151-S  
Topeka, Kansas 66612

Dear Representative Esau:

**SUBJECT:** Fiscal Note for HB 2159 by Representative Miller

In accordance with KSA 75-3715a, the following fiscal note concerning HB 2159 is respectfully submitted to your committee.

HB 2159 would amend existing law concerning voter registration to remove the requirement that a Kansas resident must prove United States citizenship to complete the registration.

According to the Secretary of State, passage of HB 2159 would have no effect on the agency budget. The agency expects some savings for county elections officers who would no longer need to send mailings to persons who apply to vote, but have not provided proof of citizenship. The agency also indicates that there might be some savings realized by the Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE) which would no longer be required to provide copies of birth certificates free of charge to those persons applying to register to vote. KDHE indicates that it currently costs the agency about \$2,000 annually to provide copies of birth certificates at no cost for voter registration purposes and that expense would be eliminated by passage of HB 2159.

The Kansas Association of Counties expects that enactment of HB 2159 would result in decreased expenditures for counties because they would no longer have to train workers to perform the administrative tasks associated with confirming and documenting citizenship when registering voters. However, the Association is unable to estimate any savings with the enactment of the bill. Any fiscal effect associated with HB 2159 is not reflected in *The FY 2018 Governor's Budget Report*.

Sincerely,



Shawn Sullivan,  
Director of the Budget

cc: Melissa Wangemann, Association of Counties

The Honorable Keith Esau, Chairperson  
February 1, 2017  
Page 2—HB 2159

Linda Borrer, Office of the Secretary of State  
Dan Thimmesch, Health & Environment