

February 16, 2022

The Honorable Emil Bergquist, Chairperson  
House Committee on Elections  
Statehouse, Room 218-N  
Topeka, Kansas 66612

Dear Representative Bergquist:

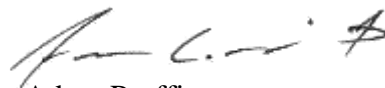
SUBJECT: Fiscal Note for HB 2653 by Representative Toplikar

In accordance with KSA 75-3715a, the following fiscal note concerning HB 2653 is respectfully submitted to your committee.

HB 2653 would allow a candidate to request a digital copy of all ballot images for those ballots counted and included in the reported election results that were counted using electronic or electromechanical voting systems or optical scanning equipment within 48 hours after the close of the polls on election day. The bill would require the request to be in writing and only made to the county election officer in a county where the candidate appeared on a ballot. The bill would also require any information provided to be in digital format as prescribed by the Secretary of State. In addition, the information would be required to be provided, to the extent possible, in a format that allows for sorting the ballot images by voting precinct. Any voting precinct having less than 20 ballot images would not be provided to protect the privacy of the voters in the precinct. The Secretary of State would be required to adopt rules and regulations necessary to implement and administer the provisions of the bill.

The Kansas Office of the Secretary of State indicates the costs associated with enactment of HB 2653 related to making sure a digital copy of ballot images is available for voting system vendors and county election offices could be absorbed within existing resources. The Office indicates the bill would have a significant fiscal effect on county election offices from the cost to purchase and maintain voting equipment that produces a digital copy of ballot images. The cost to each county that currently does not have this type of equipment would vary depending on the population of each county and the number of devices needed to serve voters.

Sincerely,



Adam Proffitt  
Director of the Budget

cc: Jay Hall, Association of Counties  
Sandy Tompkins, Office of the Secretary of State