

February 9, 2023

The Honorable Pat Proctor, Chairperson  
House Committee on Elections  
300 SW 10th Avenue, Room 218-N  
Topeka, Kansas 66612

Dear Representative Proctor:

**SUBJECT:** Fiscal Note for HB 2122 by House Committee on Elections

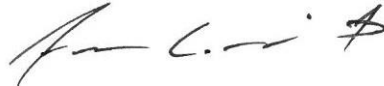
In accordance with KSA 75-3715a, the following fiscal note concerning HB 2122 is respectfully submitted to your committee.

HB 2122 would require the Secretary of State to add a signature block on an advance voting ballot envelope for a person who acts as a witness to the advance voter signature or a person who signs the advance voting ballot envelope in situations when the advance voter is physically unable to sign the envelope. A person who signs as a witness would not be allowed to witness more than 10 advance voting ballot envelopes. Also, the county election officer would not be allowed to accept an advance voting ballot that does not contain the signature of a witness.

The Secretary of State indicates it would use existing resources to provide training and update manuals for county election officials; update the agency's website; update public documents and information; and work with media, political parties, candidates, and the public to ensure knowledge of the updated witness requirements for advance voting ballot envelopes. The agency also indicates that HB 2122 could have a fiscal effect on county election office budgets. The required change in design of the advance voting ballot envelope would require county election offices to destroy existing supplies of such envelopes to meet the new requirements under the bill. The agency does not know how many counties have existing supplies of advance voter ballot envelopes that will need to be replaced sooner than planned. Any fiscal effect associated with HB 2122 is not reflected in *The FY 2024 Governor's Budget Report*.

The Kansas Association of Counties indicates HB 2122 could increase county costs as the election officers would spend time verifying signatures and counting how many ballots a witness has signed; however, the Association is unable to estimate what the fiscal effect would be.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Adam Proffitt", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Adam Proffitt  
Director of the Budget

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