

February 13, 2024

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 2519 by House Committee on Elections

In accordance with KSA 75-3715a, the following fiscal note concerning HB 2519 is respectfully submitted to your committee.

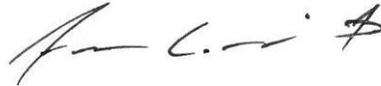
HB 2519 would expand the crime of corrupt political advertising to include advertising that would be intended to influence the vote of any person for or against any constitutional amendment propositions, bond issues, and any other question submitted at an election. Currently, excluded from the crime are advertisements made on website, by email or other type of internet communications and includes the name of the individual responsible for the advertisement who is a candidate, candidate's candidate committee, a political committee or party committee. The bill would remove the requirement that the advertisement must be made by a candidate, candidate's candidate committee, a political committee or party committee. Corrupt political advertising would be a class C nonperson misdemeanor.

The Governmental Ethics Commission indicates HB 2519 could have a fiscal effect of less than \$100 a year from the Commission's fee fund, if any costs occur at all. Local bond issues and constitutional amendment propositions communications are not within the Commission's jurisdiction. The Commission indicates there are few communications in these areas each year. The Secretary of State indicates HB 2519 would not have a fiscal effect on agency operations.

The Office of Judicial Administration indicates HB 2519 could increase the number of cases filed in the district courts because the bill would expand the crime of corrupt political advertising. These provisions of the bill would increase time spent by district court judicial and nonjudicial personnel in processing, researching, and hearing cases. Since this crime would carry a misdemeanor penalty, there could also be additional supervision of offenders by court services

officers. The enactment of the bill could increase the collection of docket fees, fines, and supervision fees that would be deposited into the State General Fund. The agency indicates that it is unable to estimate a fiscal effect. Any fiscal effect associated with HB 2519 is not reflected in *The FY 2025 Governor's Budget Report*.

Sincerely,

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

Adam C. Proffitt
Director of the Budget

cc: Mark Skoglund, Governmental Ethics Commission
Trisha Morrow, Judiciary
Sandy Tompkins, Office of the Secretary of State