

April 19, 2023

The Honorable Mike Thompson, Chairperson
Senate Committee on Federal and State Affairs
300 SW 10th Avenue, Room 144-S
Topeka, Kansas 66612

Dear Senator Thompson:

SUBJECT: Fiscal Note for SB 197 by Senators Pittman, Corson, and Holscher

In accordance with KSA 75-3715a, the following fiscal note concerning SB 197 is respectfully submitted to your committee.

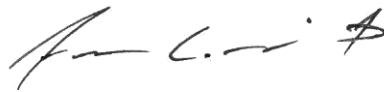
Current law allows citizens to register to vote during the 20 days prior to an election. SB 197 would amend current law to allow voter registration on any day that the main offices of the county government are open including on an election day. County election officers would be required to allow a person who is not a registered voter and appears at the county election office to apply for an advance voting ballot to register and vote immediately by a regular, rather than provisional, ballot. The bill would establish the requirements for a qualified person who appears on either election day at the polling place in which the person resides or at a satellite advance voting site during the advance voting period to register and vote a provisional ballot. The bill would also require that the provisional ballot be counted unless the county board of canvassers determines that it was improperly cast or that the person has otherwise voted in the election. The bill would also establish the procedure for a person to immediately register to vote in an election and specifies how that person could provide proof of citizenship as required by statute and under what circumstances that person's registration and provisional ballot could be rejected. The bill would also make technical corrections to existing statutes.

The Secretary of State indicates, under SB 197, the agency 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 change in registration requirement. In addition, the Secretary of State indicates county election offices' costs could increase from several hundred dollars to several thousand dollars per election per county. Cost affected would include training of staff and election workers, hiring of additional board workers to process more provisional voters, acquire

electronic poll books for counties that do not currently have electronic poll books, increase supplies including ballots and provisional ballot envelopes. Any fiscal effect associated with SB 197 is not reflected in *The FY 2024 Governor's Budget Report*.

The Kansas Association of Counties indicates SB 197 could increase election costs for the counties; however, the Association is unable to calculate the fiscal effect.

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