

February 15, 2021

The Honorable Blake Carpenter, Chairperson
House Committee on Elections
Statehouse, Room 149C-S
Topeka, Kansas 66612

Dear Representative Carpenter:

SUBJECT: Fiscal Note for HB 2319 by Representative Esau

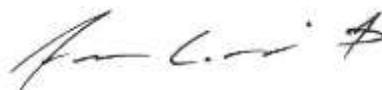
In accordance with KSA 75-3715a, the following fiscal note concerning HB 2319 is respectfully submitted to your committee.

Current law sets the deadline for receipt by mail of advance voting ballots by the office of a county election officer as the last delivery of mail by the United States Postal Service on the third day following the date of the election unless additional time is permitted by the Secretary of State. HB 2319 would change this deadline to 5:00 p.m. on the day after the election and prohibit any elected or appointed official or court from changing the deadline.

According to the Secretary of State, enactment of HB 2319 would require the agency to update training and education materials provided to county election officers and the voting public. These updates could be accomplished with existing resources. The agency indicates that the bill could have a minor fiscal effect on county election office budgets by reducing the hours that advance voting counting boards would need to be paid for working; however, the Secretary is unable to estimate what the potential savings might be.

The Kansas Association of Counties indicates that enactment of the bill could cause some additional expense since advance ballots to the military might need to be sent earlier to ensure that they could be returned in time to avoid disenfranchising those voters. There could be other timing issues caused by moving this deadline; however, the Association is unable to determine what the fiscal effect might be.

Sincerely,



Adam Proffitt
Director of the Budget

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