

February 12, 2007

The Honorable Mike Burgess, Chairperson  
House Committee on Elections and Governmental Organization  
Statehouse, Room 128-S  
Topeka, Kansas 66612

Dear Representative Burgess:

**SUBJECT:** Fiscal Note for HB 2329 by House Committee on Elections and Governmental Organization

In accordance with KSA 75-3715a, the following fiscal note concerning HB 2329 is respectfully submitted to your committee.

HB 2329 is an election bill that would move the dates of city and local school board general elections from April in odd-numbered years to a date that coincides with the regularly scheduled general elections held in November of even-numbered years. The primary election for city and school board elections would be in August. Under this legislation, elections would be held according to the following schedule:

National, state, city, and school board offices:

General election on the Tuesday following the first Monday in November in even-numbered years.

City and school board offices:

Primary election on the Tuesday following the fourth Monday in August, or the first Tuesday in August, in even-numbered years.

Community college board of trustees, hospital districts, drainage districts, and others:

General election on the first Tuesday in April in odd-numbered years (many counties).

Community college board of trustees, hospital districts, drainage districts, and others:

Primary election on the Tuesday ten weeks preceding the first Tuesday in April in odd-numbered years (many counties).

This legislation would have no fiscal effect on the Office of the Secretary of State. However, in assessing the fiscal effect on all levels of government, county election offices would incur significant costs if this legislation passes. These costs would be for voting machine programming, preparation of audio ballots for voters with visual impairments, and, in the case of

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the August primary election, ballot printing for voters who are eligible to vote for city and school board offices but are not affiliated with either the Democratic Party or the Republican Party and thus are ineligible to vote for partisan candidates. The Secretary of State estimates the costs are as follows:

November General Election:

Voting machine programming \$64,680 statewide every even-numbered year

Audio ballot preparation \$70,560 statewide every even-numbered year

August Primary Election:


Voting machine programming \$32,340 statewide every even-numbered year

Audio ballot preparation \$35,280 statewide every even-numbered year

Ballot printing (400,000 ballots) \$108,000 statewide every even-numbered year

The Secretary of State's estimate of the fiscal effect assumes HB 2329 is to conduct only one primary election in August of even-numbered years, conduct only one general election in November of even-numbered years, that elections for city and school board offices would remain nonpartisan, and that approximately half the state would be required to conduct a primary election for city and school board offices in a given year. Some counties would realize savings by not conducting city and school board general elections in April of odd-numbered years and primaries ten weeks preceding the April general elections, but those counties with community colleges or hospital districts, drainage districts, and the like would still be required to conduct and pay for those elections.

Sincerely,



Duane A. Goossen  
Director of the Budget

cc: Christy Harvey, Secretary of State's Office