

February 15, 2024

The Honorable Jim Minnix, Chairperson
House Committee on Water
300 SW 10th Avenue, Room 218-N
Topeka, Kansas 66612

Dear Representative Minnix:

SUBJECT: Fiscal Note for HB 2695 by House Committee on Water

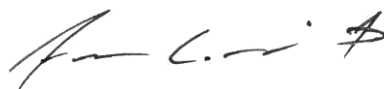
In accordance with KSA 75-3715a, the following fiscal note concerning HB 2695 is respectfully submitted to your committee.

HB 2695 would amend current law pertaining to groundwater management districts. The bill would allow a majority of eligible voters in a current groundwater management district or a majority of eligible voters in an area for a proposed extension or reduction of a district to petition the Chief Engineer in the Department of Agriculture to extend or reduce the territory of any groundwater management district. Current law only allows the board of a groundwater management district to petition to the Chief Engineer. Additionally, if the eligible voters in the current or proposed district petition to the Chief Engineer, the bill would remove the requirement that a board pass a resolution.

The Department of Agriculture and the Kansas Water Office indicate that the enactment of the bill would not have a fiscal effect.

The Kansas Association of Counties indicates that the enactment of the bill could have a fiscal effect on counties who would identify eligible voters and verify the petition if necessary; however, the fiscal effect is cannot be estimated. Any fiscal effect associated with HB 2695 is not reflected in *The FY 2025 Governor's Budget Report*.

Sincerely,



Adam C. Proffitt
Director of the Budget

cc: Debra Jones, Kansas Water Office
Lita Biggs, Department of Agriculture
Jay Hall, Kansas Association of Counties