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MEMORANDUM

To: Chairperson Thompson

Members of the Senate Committee on Federal and State Affairs

From: The Office of Revisor of Statutes

Date: March 5, 2025

Subject: HB 2016 – Including private online obituary notices as sufficient grounds

for removal of a deceased voter from voter registration books.

House Bill No. 2016 (HB 2016) amends K.S.A. 25-2316c regarding the removal of names from the voter registration books. Under current law, county election officers are directed to remove the names of deceased or disqualified voters from the county voter registration books. The statute provides various official sources for county election offices to use in verifying when to remove a voter's name. Those sources currently consist of:

- Obituary notices in newspapers of general circulation in the county;
- Specific written requests from the voter;
- Court orders for the removal of a voter's name;
- Lists of deceased or death certificates provided by the Secretary of Health and Environment; and
- Information on decedents provided by the federal Social Security Administration.

HB 2016 would add an additional official source for such information to the statute. Under the bill, counties could also use obituary notices published online by a funeral home located in the county.

HB 2016 passed the House of Representatives on a final vote of 106-13. If enacted, HB 2016 would become effective on July 1, 2025.