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Laura Kelly, Governor

February 20, 2025

The Honorable Pat Proctor, Chairperson House Committee on Elections 300 SW 10th Avenue, Room 218-N Topeka, Kansas 66612

Dear Representative Proctor:

SUBJECT: Fiscal Note for HB 2091 by Representative Sawyer Clayton

In accordance with KSA 75-3715a, the following fiscal note concerning HB 2091 is respectfully submitted to your committee.

HB 2091 would direct the Kansas Secretary of State to develop a voter registration program to offer voter registration services through the Kansas Department for Children and Families, the Kansas Department for Aging and Disability Services, and the Department of Labor. This program would offer applicants for services the opportunity to register to vote. The Secretary of State would also be required to work with the Kansas State Department of Education to develop a voter registration program to offer voter registration services at each accredited high school in Kansas.

HB 2091 would also require the Kansas Department of Corrections to offer the opportunity to register to vote to any inmate who is a citizen and whose civil rights have been restored as a part of the inmate's certificate of discharge. The bill would amend existing law concerning voting without being qualified to specify that a person who is ineligible to vote and who registers to vote under the provisions of the bill, in the absence of willful misrepresentation of eligibility to vote, would be presumed to be not at fault and would not be subject to criminal prosecution.

The Secretary of State would require \$60,000 from its fee funds for 1.0 position to create, oversee, and monitor the voter registration program created under HB 2091. The agency would use existing resources to update training materials for local election officials and update educational and promotional materials for the public.

The Kansas Department for Aging and Disability Services indicates that HB 2091 would require additional work to be performed by its providers and contractors of non-Medicaid services

which could increase administrative costs. The agency's operational costs would increase as a result of amending its contracts for the increased administrative costs of the providers and contractors; however, the agency is unable to estimate a fiscal effect.

According to the Kansas Department of Labor, enactment of HB 2091 would result in the need for programming of the current Interactive Voice Response system and its website to incorporate a question as to whether the individual would like to register to vote at the end of the benefit application process. However, the agency anticipates that any expense incurred could be absorbed within existing resources.

The Kansas State Board of Education indicates that the required additional administrative requirements for this bill by itself would be performed by existing staff of the agency. However, if the combined effect of implementing HB 2091 and other enacted legislation exceeds the Department's administrative resources, additional expenditures for administrative costs beyond the Department's current budget in future years may be required. The Kansas Department for Children and Families and the Department of Corrections indicate HB 2091 would not have a fiscal effect. Any fiscal effect associated with HB 2091 is not reflected in *The FY 2026 Governor's Budget Report*.

The Kansas Association of Counties indicates HB 2091 would not have a fiscal effect on counties unless there was an unusually large number of registrants, or the program required more administrative work by local election officials.

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cc: Sandy Tompkins, Office of the Secretary of State
Kim Holter, Department for Children & Families
Leigh Keck, Department for Aging & Disability Services
Dawn Palmberg, Department of Labor
Jay Hall, Kansas Association of Counties
Gabrielle Hull, Department of Education
Jennifer King, Department of Corrections