Division of the Budget Landon State Office Building 900 SW Jackson Street, Room 504 Topeka, KS 66612

Adam C. Proffitt, Director



Phone: (785) 296-2436 adam.c.proffitt@ks.gov http://budget.kansas.gov

Laura Kelly, Governor

March 3, 2025

The Honorable Emil Bergquist, Chairperson House Committee on Local Government 300 SW 10th Avenue, Room 281-N Topeka, Kansas 66612

Dear Representative Bergquist:

SUBJECT: Fiscal Note for HB 2191 by House Committee on Local Government

In accordance with KSA 75-3715a, the following fiscal note concerning HB 2191 is respectfully submitted to your committee.

HB 2191 would authorize the use of an official legal notice website to satisfy any law that requires the publication of a legal notice. Legal notice would mean any legal notice, advertisement, or publication of any kind that is required by law to be published in a newspaper. The bill would allow each city, county, and board of education of each school district to designate a website to be the official publication source of the city or county. The bill list requirements to be followed when selecting a website as the official publication source.

Current law, KSA 64-103(b), requires the Secretary of State to publish in one newspaper in each county resolutions making propositions to amend the state constitution to inform the public of propositions to be voted on at an election. The Secretary of State is then reimbursed for the cost of the publications by a transfer from the State General Fund to the agency's Information Services Fee Fund. The Secretary of State estimates enactment of HB 2191 would reduce State General Fund transfers to the agency's fee fund by approximately \$50,000 beginning in FY 2026 as a result of publishing constitutional amendments on the internet.

The Kansas State Board of Education indicates the bill would not have a fiscal effect on agency operations. The agency explains the bill could generate savings for the school districts since under the bill, the districts would not have to pay a fee for a newspaper or website publication, if the bill is enacted. Any fiscal effect associated with HB 2191 is not reflected in *The FY 2026 Governor's Budget Report*.

The Kansas Association of Counties states that enactment of HB 2191 could result in savings to a county depending on how it chose to publish legal notices. The Association is unable to estimate a precise fiscal effect of the bill. The League of Kansas Municipalities indicates the bill would have no fiscal effect on cities.

Sincerely,

Adam C. Proffitt

Director of the Budget

f- C. - +

cc: Sandy Tompkins, Office of the Secretary of State Jay Hall, Kansas Association of Counties Wendi Stark, League of Kansas Municipalities Gabrielle Hull, Department of Education