

January 22, 2026

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 2451 by House Committee on Elections

In accordance with KSA 75-3715a, the following fiscal note concerning HB 2451 is respectfully submitted to your committee.

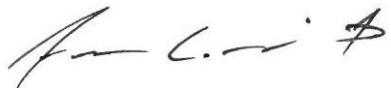
Currently, state or local employees are prohibited from using public assets to expressly advocate or oppose the nomination or election of a candidate to government office. A person violating the provisions of the law is guilty of a class C misdemeanor. HB 2451 would expand current law by prohibiting the same employees from the use of public assets for advocating for or opposing the adoption or repeal of state constitutional amendments and any other ballot question submitted to qualified electors. The bill would permit government employees to respond to inquiries regarding adoption or repeal of state constitutional amendments or other ballot questions in a neutral manner and publish neutral information to educate and inform the public using any government website. It would be a class C misdemeanor violation if a government employee directs mass communications, including mailers, flyers, physical signage, and postings to social media, regarding ballot questions.

The Public Disclosure Commission indicates HB 2451 would not have a fiscal effect. The Office of Judicial Administration states HB 2451 could increase the number of cases filed in the district courts because the bill expands the crime. This would increase time spent by district court judicial and nonjudicial personnel in processing, researching, and hearing cases. Since the crime carries a class C misdemeanor penalty, there could also be additional supervision of offenders by court services officers. Enactment of the bill could increase the collection of docket fees, fines, and supervision fees that would be deposited into the State General Fund. The agency is unable to estimate a precise fiscal effect.

The Secretary of the State indicates it would use existing resources to update training materials for local election officials and update educational and promotional materials for the public regarding the provisions of HB 2451. Any fiscal effect associated with HB 2451 is not reflected in *The FY 2027 Governor's Budget Report*.

The Kansas Association of Counties and the League of Kansas Municipalities both indicate that HB 2451 would not have a fiscal effect.

Sincerely,



Adam C. Proffitt
Director of the Budget

cc: Olivia Zacker, Public Disclosure Commission
Wendi Stark, League of Kansas Municipalities
Jay Hall, Kansas Association of Counties
Jennifer Cook, Office of the Secretary of State
Trisha Morrow, Judiciary