

April 28, 2025

The Honorable Mike Thompson, Chairperson
Senate Committee on Federal and State Affairs
300 SW 10th Avenue, Room 144-S
Topeka, Kansas 66612

Dear Senator Thompson:

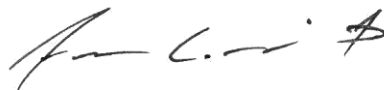
SUBJECT: Fiscal Note for SB 279 by Senate Committee on Federal and State Affairs

In accordance with KSA 75-3715a, the following fiscal note concerning SB 279 is respectfully submitted to your committee.

SB 279 would specify that if there is more than one reasonable interpretation of any provision of the Campaign Finance Act or state governmental ethics law, the provision must be construed to maximize certain rights. The bill would specify that the Governmental Ethics Commission would not have the authority to make law or interpret the provisions of the Campaign Finance Act through adjudicative decisions. The bill would invalidate certain reports, orders, or advisory opinions issued by the Commission after July 1, 2024. The bill would also require the Commission to issue a written advisory opinion of the Campaign Finance Act upon request. The bill would add certain news stories, commentary, or editorials as well as certain internet communications to the definition of "expenditure." The bill would modify statutes regarding attribution statements and would remove the requirement that the name of the chairperson or treasurer of political or other organization sponsoring advertisements must be listed in certain communications. The bill would place a six-month expiration date on subpoenas issued by the Commission and would invalidate any subpoenas issued prior to July 1, 2025. The bill would also eliminate a provision that disqualifies candidates for office if they fail to pay civil penalties or fines assessed by the Commission.

The Governmental Ethics Commission indicates enactment of the bill would have a minimal fiscal effect that could be absorbed within existing resources. Any fiscal effect associated with SB 279 is not reflected in *The FY 2026 Governor's Budget Report*.

Sincerely,



Adam C. Proffitt
Director of the Budget

cc: Kaitlyn Bull-Stewart, Governmental Ethics