

February 16, 2017

The Honorable Keith Esau, Chairperson
House Committee on Elections
Statehouse, Room 151-S
Topeka, Kansas 66612

Dear Representative Esau:

SUBJECT: Fiscal Note for HB 2224 by House Committee on Elections

In accordance with KSA 75-3715a, the following fiscal note concerning HB 2224 is respectfully submitted to your committee.

Current law requires a petition submitted in order for a political party to gain official recognition to have the number of signatures equal to 2.0 percent of the total votes cast for all candidates for the office of Governor in the last preceding election prior to the primary election. The petition is considered null and void unless it is submitted to the county election officer within 180 days of the date of the first signature on the petition. HB 2224 would specify that the petition should be submitted to the Secretary of State prior to the primary election and the required number of signatures of qualified electors on the petition would be reduced from 2.0 percent to 1.0 percent of the votes cast for the office of Governor in the last preceding election. The bill would also allow the petition to be valid if it is submitted to the Secretary of State within one year of the date of the first signature on the petition.

According to the Secretary of State, the changes made by HB 2224 would be administrative in nature and enactment of the bill would have no fiscal effect on the agency or on local units of government.

Sincerely,



Shawn Sullivan,
Director of the Budget

cc: Linda Borrer, Office of the Secretary of State