

February 24, 2020

The Honorable Sean Tarwater, Chairperson
House Committee on Commerce, Labor and Economic Development
Statehouse, Room 151D-S
Topeka, Kansas 66612

Dear Representative Tarwater:

SUBJECT: Fiscal Note for HB 2545 by Representative Amyx

In accordance with KSA 75-3715a, the following fiscal note concerning HB 2545 is respectfully submitted to your committee.

HB 2545 would require a township board to publish a notice of a public hearing in the official county newspaper prior to purchasing land or erecting buildings. The bill would require the notice to be published at least 20 days prior to the hearing. Following the hearing, the township board may adopt a resolution authorizing the purchase of the land and building. The bill would require the resolution to be published in the official county newspaper. If, within 45 days following the publication, a protest petition is presented to the county clerk, the question of purchasing must be submitted to the township electors. Any township that has acquired land and wants to construct a building or buildings shall be subject to the protest petition and election procedure.

The Office of the Secretary of State indicates the costs to update training materials for election offices and educational materials for the general public as a result of HB 2545 would be negligible and could be absorbed within existing resources. The Office also indicates county election offices could incur costs to publish notices of public hearings and conduct special elections if a protest petition is successfully submitted and requires an election, but those costs would vary by county and would depend on a number of factors, including the size of the notice and jurisdiction. Since HB 2545 would require an election for a purchase question only in the event of an adequate protest, the Kansas Association of Counties indicates counties would experience a reduction in costs related to unnecessary elections.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "L. L. Campbell".

Larry L. Campbell
Director of the Budget

cc: Jay Hall, Association of Counties
Sandy Tompkins, Office of the Secretary of State
Trey Cocking, League of Municipalities