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STATE OF KANSAS

Testimony on HB2565 (Oral Neutral)

House Committee on Federal and State Affairs
Thursday, February 17, 2022

Chairman Barker and members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to appear before you today to provide comments on HB2565. Our office is neutral on this legislation but wishes to address several technical issues.

Kansas state law currently requires the Secretary of State to “publish on the official secretary of state website results by precinct for all federal offices, statewide offices and for statewide legislative offices” within 30 days of the primary election (K.S.A. 25-3205) and the general election (K.S.A. 25-3206). These results are posted in Excel spreadsheet format.

HB2565 adds the following provision to the statute on the state canvass for the general election: *“Each county election officer shall provide precinct level election results electronically in machine readable format for all federal offices, statewide offices, legislative offices, and local offices not later than 30 days after the final canvass of the general election results.”*

For local races, the “final canvass” is the county canvass. The “final canvass” for federal, statewide, and legislative offices is the state canvass. Both canvasses are held 30 days apart, although the county canvass would produce county results for federal, statewide, and legislative offices. HB2565 makes no provision for posting primary election results. Lastly, some counties in Kansas do not have official websites. The Secretary of State’s office publishes precinct level results in a machine-readable format that can be accessed on our website.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments to the Committee.

Respectfully submitted,

Clay Barker
Deputy Assistant Secretary of State
General Counsel