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Laura Kelly, Governor

February 16, 2021

The Honorable Kent Thompson, Chairperson House Committee on Local Government Statehouse, Room 187C-N Topeka, Kansas 66612

Dear Representative Thompson:

SUBJECT: Fiscal Note for HB 2213 by House Committee on Local Government

In accordance with KSA 75-3715a, the following fiscal note concerning HB 2213 is respectfully submitted to your committee.

HB 2213 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 would 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 2213 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.

The Kansas Association of Counties indicates that enactment of HB 2213 could increase the cost of land acquisition and construction for townships as the cost of a potential election would need to be factored into any project.

Sincerely,

Adam Proffitt

Director of the Budget