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MEMORANDUM

To: Chairperson Thompson

Members of the Senate Committee on Federal and State Affairs

From: The Office of Revisor of Statutes

Date: March 12, 2024

Subject: Sub HB 2512 – Changing the deadline for early in-person voting.

Substitute for House Bill No. 2512 (HB 2512) would amend K.S.A. 25-1122 and 25-1128 to modify the deadline for returning an advance voting ballot in person to the county election office. Under current law, advance voting ballots may be returned in person to the county election office up to 12:00 noon on the day preceding the day of the election, which is generally the Monday before the election. The House Committee on Elections amended the bill to apply amendments to the statutes for elections held in 2024 and for elections held after January 1, 2025.

First, HB 2512 amends K.S.A. 25-1122 for elections held in 2024 to require that each county election office be open for at least 4 hours on the Saturday prior to the election to receive advance voting ballots returned in person. Such ballots may also be returned on the Sunday prior to the election if the county election officer decides to open the county election office on that day. The bill also amends K.S.A. 25-1128 to conform to this policy change.

Second, HB 2512 amends K.S.A. 25-1122 for elections held after January 1, 2025. Starting in 2025, advance voting ballots that are returned in person would have to be returned by 7:00 p.m. on the Sunday prior to the election. The county election officer may make an exception to this deadline on a case-by-case basis and allow a person to return a ballot by 12:00 noon on the Monday prior to the election if there is good cause for making the exception. The bill also amends K.S.A. 25-1128 to conform to this policy change.

HB 2512 passed in the House on a final action vote of 97-23.

If enacted, HB 2512 would become effective on July 1, 2024.