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Laura Kelly, Governor

April 25, 2023

The Honorable Mike Thompson, Chairperson Senate Committee on Federal and State Affairs 300 SW 10th Avenue, Room 144-S Topeka, Kansas 66612

Dear Senator Thompson:

SUBJECT: Fiscal Note for SB 223 by Senate Committee on Federal and State Affairs

In accordance with KSA 75-3715a, the following fiscal note concerning SB 223 is respectfully submitted to your committee.

SB 223 would change the date on which primary elections are held from the first Tuesday of August to the first Tuesday following the first Monday in June for national, state, and local elections. The bill would also change the date for applications for advance voting ballots to be mailed to voter for primary elections from April 1 to February 1 of such year.

The bill would also change the dates for when nomination petitions for nomination to various offices are to be signed by voters and subsequently filed by candidates depending on when new boundary lines are defined and districts established. Currently those deadlines are on or before May 10 or on or after May 11 depending on requirements set forth in law. SB 223 would change these deadlines to March 10 and March 11, respectively. The bill would also change when precinct boundaries may be reestablished from June 10 to April 10 after the legislature has been redistricted.

SB 223 would also amend current Election Campaign Finance laws by increasing the aggregate amount of contributions to a candidate and candidate's committee, party and political committees by any political committee or person except a party committee, and the candidate or candidate's spouse from \$2000 to \$2,900 for the offices of Governor and Lieutenant Governor or other state officers, from \$500 to \$1,500 for the office of a member of the House of Representatives, district judge, district magistrate judge, district attorney or local office, and from \$1,000 to \$2,900 for the office of State Senator or member of the State Board of Education. The same increases would also apply to amounts contributed by each individual party committee of the same political party for the above-mentioned offices.

After the general election in 2024 and on that day in every even-numbered year thereafter, the above-mentioned contribution limits would increase by an amount equal to the contribution

amount limit on the immediately preceding day multiplied by the average percentage increase in the Consumer Price Index for all urban consumers for the immediately preceding 12 months, as published by the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the United States Department of Labor. The Governmental Ethics Commission would be responsible for calculating the new contribution amount limits and publishing the limits on the Commission's website.

SB 223 would also remove the prohibition on individuals making contributions during the legislative session to various elected officials and political committees. In addition, the bill removes the prohibition of a legislator, officer, candidate, or political committee from knowingly soliciting contributions.

Estimated State Fiscal Effect				
	FY 2023	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2024
	SGF	All Funds	SGF	All Funds
Revenue				
Expenditure			\$100,000	\$100,000
FTE Pos.				

With the enactment of SB 223, the Secretary of State would use existing resources to provide training and update manuals for county election officials; update the agency's website; update public documents and information; and work with media, political parties, candidates, and the public to ensure knowledge of the change in the date of the primary election, as well as dates associated with the change in date of the election day. The agency would require \$100,000 from the State General Fund to cover expenses in conducting a statewide public information campaign to inform the public of the change in the primary election day. The Governmental Ethics Commission indicates SB 223 would have no fiscal effect. Any fiscal effect associated with SB 223 is not reflected in *The FY 2024 Governor's Budget Report*.

The Kansas Association of Counties indicates SB 223 would have no fiscal effect on the counties.

Sincerely,

**Adam Proffitt** 

Director of the Budget

cc: Jay Hall, Kansas Association of Counties Mark Skoglund, Governmental Ethics Commission Sandy Tompkins, Office of the Secretary of State