

**To: Senate Assessment and Taxation Committee**  
**From: Jocelyn Gunter, Director, Office of Accounts and Reports**  
**Date: March 11, 2020**  
**Re: Neutral Testimony on Senate Bill (SB) 338**

Madam Chair and members of the committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony regarding SB 338. The Department of Administration has a neutral position on SB 338.

In response to a committee request to an impact of a deadline, an amendment to SB 338 requiring budgets to be submitted by county clerks to the Office of Accounts and Reports (OAR) by December 15<sup>th</sup> annually would allow OAR to collect and inventory budgets, verify inclusion of necessary documents as required by KSA 79-2930, and upload budgets from 105 counties (approximately 3,500 municipalities) to the Municipal Services repository website within a timely manner.

Currently, there is no statutory deadline for budget submission to OAR. The timeframe of the 2020 budget collection cycle was typical to prior cycles. As of January 7, 2020, only 61% of budgets had been received by OAR. At the beginning of February 89% of budgets had been received. By the end of February 99% of budgets required to be submitted to OAR had been received.

Having budgets uploaded to the repository website improves transparency but may also benefit the State financially. For example, the State Library collects budgetary information from OAR to determine if local public libraries are eligible to receive grant-in-aid. Per KSA 75-2556, the distribution shall be apportioned and paid on February 15<sup>th</sup> of each year. Failure to submit budgets in a timely manner could disqualify local public libraries from grant dollars that such libraries would have otherwise been eligible to receive.

As reported in the February 6, 2020 Fiscal Note, any fiscal impact from SB 338 in its current form could be absorbed within existing resources.

Respectfully,

Jocelyn Gunter, Director  
Office of Accounts and Reports