

February 18, 2020

The Honorable Fred Patton, Chairperson
House Committee on Judiciary
Statehouse, Room 519C-N
Topeka, Kansas 66612

Dear Representative Patton:

SUBJECT: Fiscal Note for HB 2713 by House Committee on Judiciary

In accordance with KSA 75-3715a, the following fiscal note concerning HB 2713 is respectfully submitted to your committee.

HB 2713 would enact the Revised Uniform Law on Notarial Acts (RULNA). The bill would update existing notary statutes, clarify notary duties and responsibilities, and make best practices, such as keeping a journal of all notarizations, a statutory requirement. The provisions of the bill would permit a notary to provide remote notary services and establishes the requirements that a notary must meet prior to performing these services, including notifying the Secretary of State of the audio/visual technology to be used to perform the remote notarization. The bill would establish a fee, not to exceed \$25, to be paid to the Secretary of State by a notary who chooses to provide remote notarizations. The bill would also require a notary performing a traditional, electronic, or remote notarization to complete a course of study and examination approved by the Secretary of State. The bill would include definitions for terms used in the RULNA. The bill would take effect and be in force from and after its publication in the statute book; however, the provisions of the individual sections of the bill would take effect on January 1, 2022.

According to the Secretary of State, enactment of HB 2713 would cause the agency to incur costs to develop and provide a course of study and examination for notaries, update notary forms and develop any required rules and regulations. These expenditures could be covered with existing resources and revenue generated through notary commissions or registrations. Based on estimates from other states that have enacted remote notary legislation, it is expected that up to 1.0 percent of the 50,000 notaries commissioned in Kansas would initially register to provide remote notary services. In addition to the current fee of \$25, these notaries would pay an additional \$25 for a total increase in revenues of approximately \$12,500 ($0.01 \times 50,000 = 500 \times \$25 = \$12,500$). The

agency anticipates that the number of notaries choosing to provide remote services will increase in future years. Any fiscal effect associated with HB 2713 is not reflected in *The FY 2021 Governor's Budget Report*.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "L. L. Campbell". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "L" and a long, sweeping underline.

Larry L. Campbell
Director of the Budget

cc: Sandy Tompkins, Office of the Secretary of State