

February 16, 2022

The Honorable Fred Patton, Chairperson
House Committee on Judiciary
Statehouse, Room 582-N
Topeka, Kansas 66612

Dear Representative Patton:

SUBJECT: Fiscal Note for HB 2642 by Representative Toplikar

In accordance with KSA 75-3715a, the following fiscal note concerning HB 2642 is respectfully submitted to your committee.

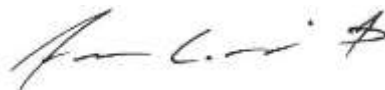
Under current law, the method for selecting judges can only be submitted to the electors in a judicial district once every eight years. HB 2642 would eliminate this requirement.

The Office of Judicial Administration states enactment of HB 2642 could have a fiscal effect on Judicial Branch operations. The bill's provisions could create job uncertainty for current judges and more potential for turnover because in every general election in even numbered years, the electors in a judicial district could change whether judges are appointed (using a nominating commission) or are elected. The Office states a fiscal effect cannot be estimated until the Judicial Branch has had an opportunity to operate under the bill's provisions.

The Office of the Secretary of State indicates any fiscal effect resulting from the enactment of the bill could be absorbed within existing resources. Any fiscal effect associated with HB 2642 is not reflected in *The FY 2023 Governor's Budget Report*.

The Kansas Association of Counties states the bill's enactment could increase labor and material costs necessary for printing and counting additional judicial votes.

Sincerely,



Adam Proffitt
Director of the Budget

cc: Vicki Jacobsen, Judiciary
Jay Hall, Association of Counties
Sandy Tompkins, Office of the Secretary of State