STATEWIDE VOTER TURNOUT EXCEEDS EXPECTATIONS

TOPEKA (August 8, 2012) – Turnout for the primary election held on August 7, 2012 was 22.8% of all voters registered in Kansas. A total of 392,142 Kansans cast ballots. This exceeds the 18% predicted by Secretary of State Kris Kobach last week. That prediction was principally based on the flow of advanced ballots received as of five days before the primary.

“I am delighted that more Kansas voters participated than we expected,” said Kobach. “Although I would prefer to see turnout much higher than 22.8%, it is nevertheless good news that Kansas voters turned out in higher numbers than we estimated.”

Kobach credited the heavily contested Senate races across the state for the higher number of ballots cast. Participation rates varied widely from county to county and from district to district. Where there was a hotly contested race, turnout was usually considerably higher than where there was not.

The county with the highest turnout was Greeley County with 64.7%. The lowest participation was in Wyandotte County with 11.3%. The highest population counties had the following turnout results: Johnson County with 17.1%, Sedgwick County with 20.3%, Shawnee County with 27.8% and Wyandotte County with 11.3%.