

February 7, 2023

The Honorable Kellie Warren, Chairperson
Senate Committee on Judiciary
300 SW 10th Avenue, Room 346-S
Topeka, Kansas 66612

Dear Senator Warren:

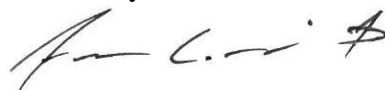
SUBJECT: Fiscal Note for SB 160 by Senate Committee on Federal and State Affairs

In accordance with KSA 75-3715a, the following fiscal note concerning SB 160 is respectfully submitted to your committee.

SB 160 would require an age verification for access by minors to pornographic internet material and would establish a civil cause of action for actual and punitive damages, attorney fees, and costs for persons harmed. Commercial entities that knowingly and intentionally publish or distribute material harmful to minors on the internet from a website that contains a substantial portion of material harmful to minors would be held liable if the entity fails to perform reasonable age verification methods.

The Office of the Attorney General indicates that SB 160 would have no fiscal effect on the Office. The Office of Judicial Administration indicates that SB 160 could increase the number of cases filed in district courts because it allows for a civil suit to be filed. This, in turn, would increase the time spent by district court judicial and nonjudicial personnel in processing, researching, and hearing cases. Nevertheless, until the courts have had an opportunity to operate under the provisions of SB 160, an accurate estimate of the fiscal effect on expenditures by the Judicial Branch cannot be given. The bill would not affect revenues for the Judicial Branch, however the bill could result in the collection of docket fees in those cases filed under the provisions of the bill, which would be deposited into the State General Fund. Any fiscal effect associated with SB 160 is not reflected in *The FY 2024 Governor's Budget Report*.

Sincerely,



Adam Proffitt
Director of the Budget

cc: Vicki Jacobsen, Judiciary
John Milburn, Office of the Attorney General