

February 28, 2024

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

Dear Senator Warren:

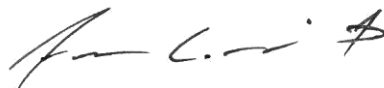
SUBJECT: Fiscal Note for SB 525 by Senate Committee on Federal and State Affairs

In accordance with KSA 75-3715a, the following fiscal note concerning SB 525 is respectfully submitted to your committee.

SB 525 would allow any person whose image or likeness is used or depicted by synthetic media in published obscene material, without the person's written consent, to bring an action in an appropriate state court against a producer, promoter, or intentional possessor of the obscene material. The prevailing plaintiff could recover actual damages, punitive damages equal to the total amount of revenue received by the defendant from the publication of the obscene material, and reasonable attorney fees and court costs.

The Office of Judicial Administration indicates enactment of the bill could increase the number of cases filed in district courts because it would allow a party to bring a court action. This would increase the time spent by district court judicial and nonjudicial personnel in processing, researching, and hearing cases. The bill could also result in the collection of docket fees in cases filed under the provisions of the bill, which would be credited to the State General Fund. However, the Office states that an accurate estimate of the fiscal effect on the Judicial Branch cannot be provided until the courts have had an opportunity to operate under the provisions of the bill. Any fiscal effect associated with SB 525 is not reflected in *The FY 2025 Governor's Budget Report*.

Sincerely,



Adam C. Proffitt
Director of the Budget

cc: Trisha Morrow, Judiciary