February 15, 2019

The Honorable Russell Jennings, Chairperson
House Committee on Corrections and Juvenile Justice
Statehouse, Room 151-S
Topeka, Kansas  66612

Dear Representative Jennings:

SUBJECT: Fiscal Note for HB 2047 by House Committee on Corrections and Juvenile Justice

In accordance with KSA 75-3715a, the following fiscal note concerning HB 2047 is respectfully submitted to your committee.

HB 2047 would modify the sentencing guidelines grid for severity level 5 drug crimes.

The Kansas Sentencing Commission estimates that enactment of HB 2047 would result in a decrease of 39 adult prison beds needed by the end of FY 2020 and a decrease of 114 prison beds needed by FY 2029. The Department of Corrections estimates the reduction in beds needed would result in cost avoidance of $70,668 in FY 2020 and cost avoidance of $206,568 by FY 2029. The current estimated available bed capacity is 9,056 for males and 915 for females. Based upon the Commission’s most recent ten-year projection contained in its FY 2019 Adult Inmate Prison Population Projections report, it is estimated that the year-end population for available male capacity will be over capacity by 264 inmates in FY 2019 and 581 inmates in FY 2020.

The Office of Judicial Administration indicates it is likely that the number of additional cases that require supervision by court services officers from the enactment of HB 2047 could be absorbed within existing resources. However, an accurate estimate of the fiscal effect on expenditures by and revenues for the Judicial Branch that may result from the enactment of the bill cannot be estimated. Any fiscal effect associated with HB 2047 is not reflected in The FY 2020 Governor’s Budget Report.

Sincerely,

Larry L. Campbell
Director of the budget

cc: Janie Harris, Judiciary
Scott Schultz, Sentencing Commission
Linda Kelly, Corrections