February 18, 2019

The Honorable Sean Tarwater, Chairperson
House Committee on Commerce, Labor and Economic Development
Statehouse, Room 151-S
Topeka, Kansas  66612

Dear Representative Tarwater:

SUBJECT: Fiscal Note for HB 2260 by House Committee on Commerce, Labor and Economic Development

In accordance with KSA 75-3715a, the following fiscal note concerning HB 2260 is respectfully submitted to your committee.

Currently, all medical expenses related to a worker’s compensation claim must be authorized by an employer before they can be charged back to an employer. HB 2260 would increase the amount an employee may recover from an employer for unauthorized medical expenses from $500 to $1,500. The bill would allow the employee to receive an amount to defray their expenses and a per diem rate for legislators. The bill would also require an employer to pay the actual costs of transportation rather than the amount prescribed for state officers and employees in statute.

Based upon FY 2018 claims, the Kansas Department of Health and Environment estimates that enactment of HB 2260 would cost the State Employee Health Plan $59,065 in claims. The Insurance Department indicates that there would be increased costs of $5,500 for employee travel and unauthorized medical expenses. Any fiscal effect associated with HB 2260 is not reflected in The FY 2020 Governor’s Budget Report.

Sincerely,

Larry L. Campbell
Director of the Budget

cc:  Dawn Palmberg, Department of Labor
     Glenda Haverkamp, Insurance
     Dan Thimmesch, Health & Environment