February 18, 2019

The Honorable Ron Highland, Chairperson
House Committee on Agriculture
Statehouse, Room 458-W
Topeka, Kansas  66612

Dear Representative Highland:

SUBJECT: Fiscal Note for HB 2271 by House Committee on Agriculture

In accordance with KSA 75-3715a, the following fiscal note concerning HB 2271 is respectfully submitted to your committee.

HB 2271 would amend existing law concerning livestock running at large to change all references to a county sheriff to a law enforcement officer. The bill would allow a law enforcement officer to issue a notice to appear to an owner of livestock upon a third violation within a 30-day period, if the owner has been issued a written warning within that period. Any owner who commits a third or subsequent violation within a 30-day period would be guilty of an unclassified misdemeanor and pay a fine of not more than $50 for the first conviction and not more than $150 for each subsequent conviction. If livestock running at large remains on a highway and the owner cannot be contacted or fails to take custody of the livestock within a reasonable time, a law enforcement officer may take the livestock to be retained in a secure holding area.

According to the Kansas Association of Counties, enactment of HB 2271 would have a minimal effect on Kansas counties, provided that a county is not expected to continue to house livestock seized by other agencies without proper reimbursement.

Sincerely,

Larry L. Campbell
Director of the Budget

cc: Kellen Liebsch, Agriculture
    Chardae Caine, League of Municipalities
    Jay Hall, Association of Counties