February 20, 2019

The Honorable Richard Proehl, Chairperson
House Committee on Transportation
Statehouse, Room 581-W
Topeka, Kansas  66612

Dear Representative Proehl:

SUBJECT:   Fiscal Note for HB 2276 by Representative Vickrey

In accordance with KSA 75-3715a, the following fiscal note concerning HB 2276 is respectfully submitted to your committee.

HB 2276 would prohibit drivers from using wireless communication devices while operating a motor vehicle in a school zone or road construction zone. The provisions of the bill would not apply to law enforcement officers or emergency service personnel while carrying out their duties; a motor vehicle that has stopped; or a wireless communication device that is being used with a hands-free device. The bill would not prohibit a person from using a wireless communication device in a school zone or road construction zone if the person is reporting illegal activity to law enforcement; preventing imminent injury to a person or property; summoning medical or other emergency assistance; or relaying information between a transit or for-hire operator and the operator’s dispatcher. The bill would add a new fine for unlawful use of a wireless communication device in a school zone or road construction zone. The amount of the fine would be $60. Law enforcement officers would be required to issue warning citations for violations occurring prior to January 1, 2020.

The Office of Judicial Administration indicates the bill would result in additional revenue from fines for the new violation and from docket fees for cases filed with the courts. Any additional cases would also increase the workload of the courts by requiring district court judicial and nonjudicial personnel to spend more time processing, researching and hearing cases. However, the Office is unable to estimate the fiscal effect on court expenditures and fine and docket fee revenue because the number of violations or cases that would occur under the bill is unknown.
The Kansas Highway Patrol indicates the bill would have no fiscal effect on the agency. The League of Kansas Municipalities and Kansas Association of Counties state that the fiscal effect on local government revenues and expenditures would be negligible. Any fiscal effect associated with HB 2276 is not reflected in The FY 2020 Governor’s Budget Report.

Sincerely,

Larry L. Campbell
Director of the Budget

cc: Janie Harris, Judiciary
    Chardae Caine, League of Municipalities
    Jay Hall, Association of Counties
    Sherry Macke, Highway Patrol