March 5, 2019

REVISED

The Honorable Susan Concannon, Chairperson
House Committee on Children and Seniors
Statehouse, Room 149-S
Topeka, Kansas  66612

Dear Representative Concannon:

SUBJECT: Revised Fiscal Note for HB 2346 by House Committee on Children and Seniors

In accordance with KSA 75-3715a, the following revised fiscal note concerning HB 2346 is respectfully submitted to your committee.

HB 2346 would change current law concerning vision screenings to include all nonpublic elementary and secondary schools accredited by the State Board of Education. The bill would require the following basic vision screening without charge: (1) an annual screening for every child participating in Individuals with Disabilities Education Act Part B programs; (2) a screening at least once each school year for students enrolled in kindergarten and grades one, two three, five, seven, and ten in a school district or an accredited nonpublic school; and (3) a screening for any student enrolled in a school district or an accredited nonpublic school within a student’s first year of admission. Students in an accredited nonpublic school would be required to be provided a basic vision screening by either the accredited nonpublic school where enrolled or upon request by the student’s parent or guardian by the board of education of the district in which the student resides.

The basic vision screening would be performed by a vision screener designated by the local board of education or by an accredited nonpublic school. Vision screeners would be required to follow the most recent state vision screening guidelines for performing vision screening. The parents or legal guardian would be notified if the student would need to be referred for an examination by an ophthalmologist or optometrist.

The bill would require the State Board of Education to establish the Kansas Children’s Vision Health and School Readiness Commission for the implementation of this bill. The bill would list the requirements for membership and duties of this Commission as well as establishing a system to collect data from school health personnel concerning screening results and referral outcomes.
The Department of Education indicates that some school districts receive in-kind services from medical professionals for vision screening services. Any additional costs not received by the in-kind services as a result of the enactment of the bill would be borne by the local school board. Any fiscal effect associated with HB 2346 is not reflected in The FY 2020 Governor’s Budget Report.

Sincerely,

Larry L. Campbell
Director of the Budget

cc: Dale Dennis, Education