February 11, 2020

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

Dear Representative Jennings:

SUBJECT:  Fiscal Note for HB 2518 by House Committee on Corrections and Juvenile Justice

In accordance with KSA 75-3715a, the following fiscal note concerning HB 2518 is respectfully submitted to your committee.

HB 2518 would amend the definition of “conviction” as it relates to domestic battery to include any criminal offense that includes a domestic violence designation.

The Kansas Sentencing Commission indicates that the bill could have an effect on prison admissions, bed space, and the workload of the Commission. The current estimated available prison bed capacity is 9,916. Based upon the Commission’s most recent ten-year projection contained in its FY 2020 Adult Inmate Prison Population Projections report, it is estimated that the year-end population for available capacity will be over capacity by 258 inmates in FY 2020 and 524 inmates in FY 2021. The Department of Corrections states that, due to the capacity challenges facing the Department, if HB 2518 did increase prison utilization it would house any additional inmates in a combination of county jails and out-of-state contract beds, depending on the custody level and gender. The Department indicates that the cost to house an inmate in a contract bed ranges from $40 per day to $74.76 per day. However, a fiscal effect cannot be determined because the effect on prison admissions and bed space cannot be estimated.

The Office of Judicial Administration indicates that enactment of the bill would have a negligible fiscal effect on the agency. Any fiscal effect associated with HB 2518 is not reflected in The FY 2021 Governor’s Budget Report.

Sincerely,

Larry L. Campbell
Director of the budget

cc:  Randy Bowman, Corrections
     Mary Rinehart, Judiciary
     Scott Schultz, Sentencing Commission