February 17, 2020

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

Dear Representative Highland:

SUBJECT:  Fiscal Note for HB 2623 by House Committee on Agriculture

In accordance with KSA 75-3715a, the following fiscal note concerning HB 2623 is respectfully submitted to your committee.

HB 2623 would create the Kansas Solar Pollinator Habitat Act. The bill would require the State Biological Survey to publish a pollinator-friendly solar site scorecard that would be posted on the biological survey’s website by January 1, 2021. HB 2623 would also require the State Biological Survey to maintain a registry of completed scorecards and corresponding vegetation management plans. An owner of a solar site could claim that the site is pollinator-friendly if the site and its vegetation management plan adheres to the State Biological Survey’s scorecard criteria and the owner implements solar site management practices. An owner that claims the site is pollinator-friendly would make the completed scorecard and vegetation management plan available to the public and submit a copy to the State Biological Survey for publishing.

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<th>Estimated State Fiscal Effect</th>
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<td>Revenue</td>
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The Kansas Biological Survey of the University of Kansas states that enactment of HB 2623 would require additional expenditures of $50,000 from the State General Fund in FY 2021.
to finance a 0.50 FTE position to support an associate researcher to perform the requirements of the bill. Of that amount, $43,875 would be for salary and wage expenditures, $4,000 would be for travel and training, and $2,125 would be for a computer. Any fiscal effect associated with HB 2623 is not reflected in The FY 2021 Governor’s Budget Report.

Sincerely,

Larry L. Campbell
Director of the Budget

cc: Chris Tymeson, Wildlife, Parks & Tourism
    Dan Thimmesch, Health & Environment
    Matthew Chappell, Historical Society
    Matt Unruh, Water Office
    Dianne Goddard, University of Kansas