February 10, 2020

The Honorable Gene Suellentrop, Chairperson
Senate Committee on Public Health and Welfare
Statehouse, Room 441B-E
Topeka, Kansas  66612

Dear Senator Suellentrop:

SUBJECT:   Fiscal Note for SB 349 by Senate Committee on Public Health and Welfare

In accordance with KSA 75-3715a, the following fiscal note concerning SB 349 is respectfully submitted to your committee.

SB 349 would create the Kansas Oral Health Improvement Act. The Act would require the Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE) to develop and implement a state oral health plan that addresses oral health workforce; drinking water; teledentistry; oral health literacy; the financing of oral health services; and system collaboration between oral health providers, funding sources and consumers. KDHE would be required to report on the plan every five years.

The bill would create an advisory committee to assist KDHE with developing the plan. Advisory committee members would include, but not be limited to, KDHE; Oral Health Kansas; the Community Care Network of Kansas; the Kansas Dental Hygienists’ Association; and the Kansas Dental Association.

The bill would require KDHE to amend the provider reimbursement rates for dental services provided to medical assistance enrollees. The rates would be equal to 60.0 percent of the reimbursement rates paid by the state healthcare benefits program. KDHE would be required to submit necessary requests to the U.S. Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services.

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The Kansas Department of Health and Environment estimates the bill would require additional expenditures of $17.0 million from all funding sources in FY 2021, which would include $5.5 million from the State General Fund (SGF) and $11.5 million from federal funds. The estimate includes costs to adjust rates for medical assistance enrollees who are currently covered ($374,771 SGF; $1.1 million from all funding sources) plus costs to provide dental services to enrollees who are not currently covered ($5.0 million SGF; $15.8 million from all funding sources). The estimate also includes $150,000 from the State General Fund for the Bureau of Oral Health. Expenditures for the Bureau include $80,000 for professional contractual services; $40,000 for data collection and evaluation; $20,000 for advisory council expenses; $8,000 for regional community outreach meetings; and $2,000 for communication expenses.

The estimate above assumes passage of 2019 SB 252, which is the Medicaid expansion bill. If SB 252 is not enacted, KDHE estimates SB 349 would require expenditures of $5.1 million from the State General Fund and $12.4 million from all funding sources. SB 349 would have no fiscal effect on the Kansas Dental Board. Any fiscal effect associated with SB 349 is not reflected in The FY 2021 Governor’s Budget Report.

Sincerely,

Larry L. Campbell
Director of the Budget

cc: Dan Thimmesch, Health & Environment
    Charity Carlat, Dental Board