January 30, 2019

The Honorable Julia Lynn, Chairperson
Senate Committee on Commerce
Statehouse, Room 445-S
Topeka, Kansas  66612

Dear Senator Lynn:

SUBJECT: Fiscal Note for SB 38 by Senate Committee on Federal and State Affairs

In accordance with KSA 75-3715a, the following fiscal note concerning SB 38 is respectfully submitted to your committee.

Under current law, school bus drivers are permitted to apply for unemployment insurance benefits when school is in session. SB 38 would remove the reasonable assurance for school bus drivers. Removing the reasonable assurance would allow school bus drivers to apply and receive unemployment insurance benefits when school is not in session.

The Kansas Department of Labor states that enactment of SB 38 would have a fiscal effect because an increase in the number of unemployed persons would cause unemployment insurance benefit payments to increase. Total employment in this industry for the state averages 3,100 employees per quarter. Claims for some workers when school is in session had an average weekly benefit amount between $202 and $254 with total benefit amounts between $3,181 and $3,981. However, no information is available upon which to base an accurate estimate for what the benefit payments would be when school is not in session.

Sincerely,

Larry L. Campbell
Director of the Budget

cc:  Dawn Palmberg, Department of Labor