January 28, 2021

The Honorable Richard Hilderbrand, Chairperson
Senate Committee on Public Health and Welfare
Statehouse, Room 445A-S
Topeka, Kansas  66612

Dear Senator Hilderbrand:

SUBJECT: Fiscal Note for SB 42 by Senate Committee on Federal and State Affairs

In accordance with KSA 75-3715a, the following fiscal note concerning SB 42 is respectfully submitted to your committee.

SB 42 would expand the duties of the Secretary of Health and Environment when investigating cases of maternal death. The Secretary would be required to perform the following duties in addition to the duties under current law:

1. Utilize a social determinants of health review form that includes a section on racial inequities in healthcare, including racial discrimination and other factors related to racism;

2. Work with healthcare providers and healthcare facilities to promote the continuity of maternal healthcare for women during and after pregnancy;

3. Help healthcare providers and healthcare facilities develop and implement performance measures prioritized by the Secretary in accordance with the Maternal and Child Health Services Block Grant;

4. Strengthen the ability of local health officers to generate and compile maternal healthcare performance indicators; and

5. Establish an external community review committee that includes stakeholders of color, has access to publicly available data and externally reviews Black maternal death cases.

The bill would also extend certain confidentiality provisions from July 1, 2023 to July 1, 2026.
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<th>Estimated State Fiscal Effect</th>
<th>FY 2021 SGF</th>
<th>FY 2021 All Funds</th>
<th>FY 2022 SGF</th>
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The Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE) estimates the bill would require additional expenditures of $30,300 from federal funds in FY 2022. This amount includes $24,300 for Perinatal Quality Collaborative contract costs to support local providers; $5,000 for contract costs to work through changes in protocol and processes related to abstraction, review, and documentation of case findings; and $1,000 for abstractor time required to develop a method to capture and track social determinants of health and health disparities. KDHE indicates it would also incur costs related to additional staff time to pull data, provide technical assistance, and develop reports. However, the agency estimates the expenditures for staff time could be absorbed within existing resources. KDHE notes that no new funding has been identified to implement the bill, and if the bill passes existing federal funds would be redirected to implement the changes.

The Department for Children and Families, the Judiciary, and the Kansas Bureau of Investigation each indicate the bill would have no fiscal effect. Any fiscal effect associated with SB 42 is not reflected in The FY 2022 Governor’s Budget Report.

Sincerely,

Adam Proffitt
Director of the Budget

cc: Dan Thimmesch, Health & Environment