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Laura Kelly, Governor

February 15, 2024

The Honorable Susan Humphries, Chairperson House Committee on Judiciary 300 SW 10th Avenue, Room 582-N Topeka, Kansas 66612

Dear Representative Humphries:

SUBJECT: Fiscal Note for HB 2781 by House Committee on Judiciary

In accordance with KSA 75-3715a, the following fiscal note concerning HB 2781 is respectfully submitted to your committee.

HB 2781 relates to the Crime Victims Compensation Board and claims for compensation. Compensation could be awarded when the Board determines that denying compensation would be a severe injustice of the victim. The bill would amend the list of circumstances the Board would consider when determining financial stress to include other factors deemed appropriate by the Board, if the victim obtained a forensic medical examination within seven days after the occurrence of the criminally injurious conduct, or if the Board finds good cause for the failure to obtain an examination.

Currently, compensation for work loss, replacement services loss, dependent's economic loss and dependent's replacement service loss would not exceed \$400 per week. The bill would increase the amount to not exceed \$800 per week. The bill would provide for compensation of work loss to a victim of human trafficking or aggravated human trafficking, which would be an amount not less than \$350 per week and not more than \$800 per week. The bill would increase the annual transfer from the Crime Victims Compensation Fund to the Crime Victims Assistance Fund from \$300,000 to \$500,000 starting June 30, 2025.

The Office of the Attorney General states that it cannot estimate changes in compensation the Board would award to victims, but that any additional expenditures could be financed with existing revenues. The Board also receives 75.0 percent federal matching dollars for state funds expended for payments made to victims and therefore the federal funds would increase as state expenses increase. However, the agency cannot estimate the fiscal effect of the bill's provisions.

The Office of Judicial Administration states that the bill would not have a fiscal effect on any operating costs. Any fiscal effect associated with HB 2781 is not reflected in *The FY 2025 Governor's Budget Report*.

Sincerely,

Adam C. Proffitt

Director of the Budget

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cc: William Hendrix, Office of the Attorney General Trisha Morrow, Judiciary