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Sam Brownback, Governor

February 8, 2012

The Honorable Carl Holmes, Chairperson House Committee on Energy and Utilities Statehouse, Room 174-W Topeka, Kansas 66612

Dear Representative Carl Holmes:

SUBJECT: Fiscal Note for HB 2528 by House Committee on Energy and Utilities

In accordance with KSA 75-3715a, the following fiscal note concerning HB 2528 is respectfully submitted to your committee.

HB 2528 would establish the following two grant programs in the Department of Agriculture: Streambank Stabilization and Multi-Purpose Small Lakes. The Multi-Purpose Small Lakes program would be used for at least two of the following purposes: flood control, water supply storage, or recreation. These programs were formerly a part of the State Conservation Commission, which is now the Conservation Division of the Department of Agriculture.

The bill would also designate the Kansas Water Office as the state agency that would approve all streambank stabilization projects. The Office would also be responsible for administrative costs incurred in connection with applications for streambank stabilization projects including the authority to plan, contract, acquire land and easements, apportion costs and provide assurances that project operation and maintenance funds would be available, subject to appropriation.

The Kansas Department of Agriculture indicates that the bill would change some costsharing rate maximums for existing grant programs offered through the Division of Conservation. Passage of the bill would not increase State Water Plan Fund appropriations; however, it may affect the number of projects that could be completed. HB 2528 would not affect federal funding received by the Department. The duties assigned to the Kansas Water Office would be part of normal agency operations and not require additional funding.

Sincerely,

Steven J. Anderson, CPA, MBA Director of the Budget

cc: Mark Heim, Agriculture Dawn Palmberg, Water Office