January 26, 2012

The Honorable Tim Owens, Chairperson
Senate Committee on Judiciary
Statehouse, Room 559-S
Topeka, Kansas 66612

Dear Senator Owens:

SUBJECT: Fiscal Note for SB 281 by Senate Committee on Judiciary

In accordance with KSA 75-3715a, the following fiscal note concerning SB 281 is respectfully submitted to your committee.

SB 281 removes the sunset provision from the statute establishing the Commission on Judicial Performance, extending the Commission’s duties of evaluating Kansas appellate and trial judges beyond June 30, 2013.

The Kansas Judicial Council estimates that the costs related to continuing the Commission on Judicial Performance beyond June 30, 2013 would be $639,135 from the Judicial Performance Fund for FY 2014. This amount would include salaries and wages for 2.00 FTE positions. The Judicial Performance Fund was created in 2006 and receives 3.05 percent of total docket fees. Under current law, the docket fee portion will continue to be deposited in the fund and will be available to the Judicial Council in FY 2013 and thereafter. Average annual receipts to the fund for the past three years were $734,439 and the agency estimates that receipts for FY 2014 would be adequate to fully fund the Commission.

Sincerely,

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

cc: Janelle Williams, Judicial Council