March 5, 2014

The Honorable Richard Carlson, Chairperson
House Committee on Taxation
Statehouse, Room 185-N
Topeka, Kansas  66612

Dear Representative Carlson:

SUBJECT:  Fiscal Note for HB 2689 by House Committee on Judiciary

In accordance with KSA 75-3715a, the following fiscal note concerning HB 2689 is respectfully submitted to your committee.

HB 2689 would allow that for the purposes of determining whether a conviction for driving with a suspended license is a first, second, or subsequent conviction in sentencing, only convictions occurring in the immediately preceding five years, including prior to July 1, 2014, would be taken into account.

For violations of driving with a suspended license because of refusing to submit for testing, driving without motor vehicle liability insurance coverage, committing the crimes of murder or manslaughter as a result of operating a motor vehicle, or being a habitual violator, when determining whether a conviction is a first, second, third or subsequent conviction in sentencing, only convictions occurring on or after July 1, 2001, would be taken into account.

According to the Office of Judicial Administration, HB 2689 would have no fiscal effect on the Judicial Branch. While there would be no effect on prison bed space, the limits placed on the time periods for whether previous convictions would be considered first, second, third, or subsequent convictions could result in small reductions to jail time from offenders who would otherwise receive reduced sentences under the new criteria. However, the Kansas Association of Counties indicates it is likely that the fiscal and bed space effects on county jails would be negligible.

Sincerely,

Jon Hummell,
Interim Director of the Budget

cc:  Mary Rinehart, Judiciary
Jeremy Barclay, Corrections
Steve Neske, Department of Revenue
Scott Schultz, Sentencing Commission
Melissa Wangemann, Association of Counties