February 17, 2015

The Honorable Sharon Schwartz, Chairperson
House Committee on Agriculture and Natural Resources
Statehouse, Room 149-S
Topeka, Kansas 66612

Dear Representative Schwartz:

SUBJECT: Fiscal Note for HB 2293 by House Committee on Federal and State Affairs

In accordance with KSA 75-3715a, the following fiscal note concerning HB 2293 is respectfully submitted to your committee.

HB 2293 would amend existing law concerning dangerous regulated animals and contact with these animals. The bill would add any nonhuman primate and any wolf to the list of dangerous regulated animals, and would prohibit a person from possessing, slaughtering, selling, purchasing or otherwise acquiring a live dangerous regulated animal. The bill would also prohibit a person from allowing a member of the public to come into direct contact with a dangerous regulated animal, regardless of the age of the animal, unless that person was an employee of the owner of the animal. These animals would not be allowed to be in proximity to members of the public without sufficient distance and protective barriers.

The bill would establish requirements that must be adhered to in order to exempt persons 21 years of age or older from its provisions, if the animal was owned prior to July 1, 2015. Current law allows the local animal control authority to give a person in possession of such an animal 30 days to come into compliance with this act. HB 2293 would prohibit the 30-day period from being extended more than once. The bill would add the following list of entities exempt from this act: exhibitors, such as circuses; persons transporting dangerous regulated animals through the state; law enforcement officers; and nonprofit animal protection organizations. The bill also would make a number of technical corrections.

According to the Kansas Association of Counties, passage of HB 2293 could have a fiscal effect on Kansas counties due to the addition of two more dangerous regulated animals. The Association indicates that any additional costs could likely be recovered by the county
prosecutor if a violation of the law occurred. The League of Kansas Municipalities is unable to estimate the fiscal effect that passage of HB 2293 might have on the cities of Kansas.

Sincerely,

Shawn Sullivan,
Director of the Budget

cc: Chris Tyneson, KDWPT
    Melissa Wangemann, KAC
    Larry Baer, LKM