

March 9, 2015

The Honorable Julia Lynn, Chairperson  
Senate Committee on Commerce  
Statehouse, Room 445-S  
Topeka, Kansas 66612

Dear Senator Lynn:

**SUBJECT:** Fiscal Note for SB 179 by Senate Committee on Ways and Means

In accordance with KSA 75-3715a, the following fiscal note concerning SB 179 is respectfully submitted to your committee.

SB 179 would abolish the Public Employee Relations Board (PERB) and would allow the Secretary of Labor to administer the Public Employer-Employee Relations Act (PEERA). The bill would replace references to PERB with the Secretary of Labor. The bill would amend PEERA to change the process by which public employers other than the State of Kansas elect to come under the provision of PEERA; changes the definitions of “conditions of employment” and “professional employee”; eliminates the definitions of the terms “mediation,” “fact-finding,” “arbitration,” and “grievance”; clarifies the rights of a public employer and what can be included in a memorandum of agreement; and changes the procedures for parties that reach an impasse.

The Department of Labor indicates SB 179 would have no fiscal effect on its operations. The Department of Administration indicates the bill would potentially reduce staff time devoted to assist state agencies with labor relations issues; however, the savings are estimated to be negligible. Any fiscal effect associated with SB 179 is not reflected in *The FY 2016 Governor’s Budget Report*.

Sincerely,



Shawn Sullivan,  
Director of the Budget

cc: Dawn Palmberg, Labor  
Colleen Becker, DofA  
Dale Dennis, Education  
Faith Loretto, KPERS