The Honorable Clay Aurand, Chairperson  
House Committee on Education  
Statehouse, Room 286-N  
Topeka, Kansas  66612

Dear Representative Aurand:

SUBJECT:  Fiscal Note for HB 2613 by House Committee on Education

In accordance with KSA 75-3715a, the following fiscal note concerning HB 2613 is respectfully submitted to your committee.

HB 2613 would amend the definition of special education services to include assistive technology, sign language interpreting services, and Braille materials. The bill would require school districts to provide these additional services for exceptional children who attend a private, nonprofit elementary or secondary school that is located in the district.

The additional services in the bill would be provided by the school district at the private school. During a consultation between the school district and the parent or guardian of the student, the district would provide documentation demonstrating the average cost and the actual cost to the school district for the additional services. The average cost to the district for providing special education services in a private nonprofit school could not exceed the average cost for the same services provided to children within the same category of exceptionality in the public school; however, if the average cost cannot be determined, then the amounts could not exceed the actual cost to the district for providing the same services in the public school.

According to the Department of Education, any increased costs from providing the additional services contained in HB 2613 would be borne by school districts. The Department notes that the bill would most likely not contribute to additional “excess costs” when calculating state aid entitlements for special education aid. As a result, enactment of the bill would not increase state payments to school districts.

Sincerely,

Larry L. Campbell  
Chief Budget Officer

cc:  Dale Dennis