February 20, 2018

The Honorable Les Mason, Chairperson
House Committee on Commerce, Labor and Economic Development
Statehouse, Room 521-E
Topeka, Kansas  66612

Dear Representative Mason:

SUBJECT: Fiscal Note for HB 2710 by Representative Whipple

In accordance with KSA 75-3715a, the following fiscal note concerning HB 2710 is respectfully submitted to your committee.

HB 2710 would prohibit employers from retaliation or discrimination against an employee for being or having been a victim of domestic violence or sexual assault. The bill would specify that such employees may take time off from work to obtain or relocate to other housing to help to ensure the health, safety, or welfare of the victim or the victim’s child or children.

The bill specifies that victims who are public employees would be entitled to an additional day of paid leave to seek help or services. The bill would define “public employee.”

According to the Office of Judicial Administration, enactment of HB 2710 would have a negligible fiscal effect on the Judicial Branch.

The Department of Administration states enactment of HB 2710 would allow employees to be able to take off a single day of paid time off required to be provided under the provisions of the bill. The Department states this would not result in any additional expenditures, but would be realized in the form of lost productivity for that day. Because of the specific circumstances for which the leave is available, the Department is unable to estimate a fiscal affect. Any fiscal effect associated with HB 2710 is not reflected in The FY 2019 Governor’s Budget Report.
The Kansas Association of Counties states the bill would prohibit counties from discriminating or retailing against employees for being or having been the victim of domestic violence or sexual assault, which could expand the degree to which counties could be subject to liability for discrimination claims.

Sincerely,

Larry L. Campbell
Chief Budget Officer

cc: Ashley Michaelis, Judiciary
    Chardae Caine, League of Municipalities
    Melissa Wangemann, Association of Counties
    Jackie Aubert, Children & Families
    Scott Schultz, Sentencing Commission
    Dawn Palmberg, Department of Labor
    Colleen Becker, Department of Administration