March 7, 2017

The Honorable Caryn Tyson, Chairperson
Senate Committee on Assessment and Taxation
Statehouse, Room 123-E
Topeka, Kansas  66612

Dear Senator Tyson:

SUBJECT: Fiscal Note for SB 198 by Senate Committee on Assessment and Taxation

In accordance with KSA 75-3715a, the following fiscal note concerning SB 198 is respectfully submitted to your committee.

SB 198 would require applicants, employees, and contractors of the Department of Revenue that have access to federal tax information to be fingerprinted and submit to a national criminal history record check. Information obtained from the national criminal history record check would only be used to verify the individual’s identity and fitness for initial or continuing employment. The bill requires that when fingerprinting is required, the costs would be paid by the applicant, employee, or contractor.

The Department of Revenue indicates SB 198 would have no fiscal effect on its operations. The costs of fingerprinting and the national criminal history record check would be the responsibility of the applicant, employee, or contractor as a condition of employment. The Department of Revenue estimates it would require approximately 350 applicants, employees, or contractors to be initially fingerprinted and to submit to a national criminal history record check in the first year. Additional fingerprinting and record checks would be conducted in future years depending on turnover. The Department indicates that this bill would implement a requirement from the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) for the qualifications required for handling federal tax information. The Department indicates that if this requirement is not in place before the next IRS audit, the Department could be cited as out of compliance and required to develop a mandatory plan of action to correct the situation. Failure to comply with this IRS requirement has the potential to jeopardize the receipt of over $70.0 million in federal funds and could limit the Department’s access to federal data that is used to help detect fraudulent individual income tax returns.
According to the KBI, it charges $47 for a KBI/FBI fingerprinting and national record check. The KBI indicates that the total cost to process all fingerprints and return the results to the Department of Revenue would be covered by the fees assessed to each individual submitting fingerprints for the national criminal history record check. Any fiscal effect associated with SB 198 is not reflected in The FY 2018 Governor’s Budget Report.

Sincerely,

Shawn Sullivan,
Director of the Budget

cc: Lynn Robinson, Department of Revenue
    Shelia Sawyer-Tyler, KBI