March 13, 2018

The Honorable Rick Wilborn, Chairperson
Senate Committee on Judiciary
Statehouse, Room 541-E
Topeka, Kansas  66612

Dear Senator Wilborn:

SUBJECT: Fiscal Note for SB 439 by Senate Committee on Ways and Means

In accordance with KSA 75-3715a, the following fiscal note concerning SB 439 is respectfully submitted to your committee.

SB 439 would clarify that all proceedings, including testimony, before a grand jury must be recorded. Under current law, grand jury proceedings are recorded by a stenographer. The bill would allow the grand jury to choose whether to utilize a stenographer or a digital recording system maintained by the court.

The bill would allow presiding grand jurors to endorse “a true bill” with their own name or as “Presiding Grand Juror.”

The Office of Judicial Administration estimates enactment of SB 439 would have a negligible fiscal effect upon the Judicial Branch.

The Kansas Association of Counties states enactment of SB 439 could reduce expenditures for counties since grand jury proceedings could be recorded digitally, instead of by a stenographer.

Sincerely,

Larry L. Campbell
Chief Budget Officer

cc: Ashley Michaelis, Judiciary
Melissa Wangemann, Association of Counties