

February 11, 2020

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

Dear Representative Huebert:

SUBJECT: Fiscal Note for HB 2573 by House Committee on Education

In accordance with KSA 75-3715a, the following fiscal note concerning HB 2573 is respectfully submitted to your committee.

HB 2573 would require all ninth-grade students in accredited public and private schools, to pass an examination on the principles of American civics on or after July 1, 2020. Any student who does not satisfactorily pass the exam would not be certified as having completed the course requirements for graduation. The bill would require the exam to comprise 100 questions similar to those administered by the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services to applicants for U.S. citizenship through naturalization. The bill would allow the State Board of Education to adopt rules and regulations to implement the provisions of the bill.

Estimated State Fiscal Effect				
	FY 2020 SGF	FY 2020 All Funds	FY 2021 SGF	FY 2021 All Funds
Revenue	--	--	--	--
Expenditure	--	--	\$400,000	\$400,000
FTE Pos.	--	--	--	--

According to the Department of Education, approximately 36,500 students would be required to take the required American civics examination annually. Because the passing the exam would be a graduation requirement, a test must be used that has been scrutinized for validity and reliability and would likely be contracted with a vendor. In addition, the agency states that some students would take the examination multiple times, as it is required for graduation and there is no limit in the bill on the number of times a student could take the test. Based on similar contracted test costs, the examination would cost approximately \$10 each time a student would take the

examination. As a result, the Department estimates that additional expenditures of \$400,000 from the State General Fund (40,000 students X \$10 per exam = \$400,000) would be required with the enactment of the bill. Any fiscal effect associated with HB 2573 is not reflected in *The FY 2021 Governor's Budget Report*.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "L. Campbell". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "L" and a long, sweeping underline.

Larry L. Campbell
Director of the Budget

cc: Dale Dennis, Education