February 28, 2013

The Honorable Ralph Ostmeyer, Chairperson
Senate Committee on Federal and State Affairs
Statehouse, Room 136-E
Topeka, Kansas  66612

Dear Senator Ostmeyer:

SUBJECT: Fiscal Note for SB 214 by Senate Committee on Federal and State Affairs

In accordance with KSA 75-3715a, the following fiscal note concerning SB 214 is respectfully submitted to your committee.

SB 214 would prohibit the sale or possession with intent to sell bottle rockets to the general public. It would also prohibit igniting, firing or setting off a bottle rocket. Violations of the provisions of the bill would be unclassified misdemeanors and would be subject to a $100 fine. The provisions of the bill would not prohibit the possession, transportation, or sale of bottle rockets within Kansas to other registered or non-registered wholesalers by persons, manufacturers, or wholesalers who are currently registered with the State Fire Marshal, provided the non-registered purchaser submits a certification for resale outside the State of Kansas to the registered seller. Registrations would be effective for a period of four years from the date of registration. Registrations would not be required when the sale occurs in Kansas and the purchaser transports the bottle rockets out of the state and provides the registered seller with a certificate for sale outside of Kansas.

According to the Office of Judicial Administration, passage of SB 214 could have a fiscal effect on the budget of the Judicial Branch as it creates a new misdemeanor. This could increase the number of cases filed in district courts related to bottle rocket offenses. This in turn would increase time spent by district court judicial and non-judicial personnel in processing, researching, and hearing cases. Until the courts have had an opportunity to operate under the provisions of SB 214, however, an accurate estimate of the fiscal effect of the bill on the agency budget cannot be provided. The State Fire Marshal indicates that passage of SB 214 would have no fiscal effect on its budget. Any fiscal effect associated with SB 214 is not reflected in The FY 2014 Governor’s Budget Report.

Sincerely,

Steven J. Anderson, CPA, MBA
Director of the Budget

cc:  Becky Bahr, Fire Marshal’s Office
     Mary Rinehart, Judiciary