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Laura Kelly, Governor

February 7, 2025

The Honorable Cyndi Howerton, Chairperson House Committee on Child Welfare and Foster Care 300 SW 10th Avenue, Room 152-S Topeka, Kansas 66612

Dear Representative Howerton:

SUBJECT: Fiscal Note for HB 2093 by House Committee on Child Welfare and Foster Care

In accordance with KSA 75-3715a, the following fiscal note concerning HB 2093 is respectfully submitted to your committee.

HB 2093 would authorize victims of childhood abuse or neglect to access records related to substantiated reports or investigations of abuse or neglect, extending the time to file civil actions for recovery of damages caused by childhood sexual abuse. The victim would have to be 18 years of age or older and the subject of the report or investigation. The limitations period for actions for damages for injury or illness from childhood sexual abuse would be increased. The bill would allow a civil action for damages to commence up to "37 years after the date the victim attains 18 years of age or more than three years after the date of a related criminal conviction." The limitations period currently requires that a civil action for childhood sexual abuse be commenced no more than "13 years after the date the victim attains 18 years of age."

The Department for Children and Families and the Kansas Department of Health and Environment indicate that enactment of HB 2093 would have no fiscal effect on either agency.

The Office of Judicial Administration indicates that enactment of HB 2093 could increase the number of cases filed in district courts because it would increase the time limitation to file an action related to childhood sexual abuse. This would allow more cases to be filed with the court that otherwise would not have been filed. This, in turn, would increase the time spent by district court judicial and nonjudicial personnel in processing, researching, and hearing cases. Nevertheless, until the courts have had an opportunity to operate under the provisions of HB 2093, an accurate estimate of the fiscal effect on expenditures by the Judicial Branch cannot be given.

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The bill would not have a fiscal effect on revenues to the Judicial Branch. However, enactment of HB 2093 could result in the collection of docket fees in those cases filed under the provisions of the bill, which would be deposited in the State General Fund. Any fiscal effect associated with HB 2093 is not reflected in *The FY 2026 Governor's Budget Report*.

Sincerely,

Adam C. Proffitt

Director of the Budget

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cc: Amy Penrod, Department of Health & Environment Kim Holter, Department for Children & Families Trisha Morrow, Judiciary