

February 20, 2026

REVISED

The Honorable Jason W. Goetz, Chairperson  
House Committee on K-12 Education Budget  
300 SW 10th Avenue, Room 546-S  
Topeka, Kansas 66612

Dear Representative Goetz:

**SUBJECT:** Revised Fiscal Note for HB 2761 by House Committee on K-12 Education Budget

In accordance with KSA 75-3715a, the following revised fiscal note concerning HB 2761 is respectfully submitted to your committee.

HB 2761 would enact the Speech-Language Pathology Assistant (SLPA) Licensure Act. The bill would make related definitions and establish qualifications for licensure for SLPAs under the Act. The bill specifies activities allowed and prohibited by licensed SLPAs and details continuing education requirements after licensure. The Secretary of Health and Environment would be required to issue licenses and adopt related rules and regulations. Fees related to licensure would be capped at \$200 and would be deposited in the Health Occupations Credentialing Fee Fund administered by the Kansas Department for Aging and Disabilities. On and after January 1, 2027, it would be unlawful for any person to represent themselves in any manner as a SLPA if such person is not licensed under the Act. Violations of the Act would be a class C nonperson misdemeanor and each day in violation would be considered a separate offense.

Speech-language pathology is currently regulated by the Kansas Department for Aging and Disabilities under KSA 65-6501 et seq. Using the assumption that the statutory reference in HB 2761 was intended to be Article 65 of Chapter 65 instead of Article 62 of Chapter 65, the Kansas Department of Health and Environment does not anticipate a fiscal effect due to enactment of the bill.

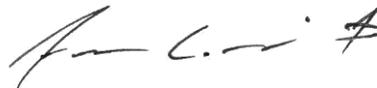
If the regulation of SLPAs was to be under the Kansas Department for Aging and Disabilities, the agency estimates that enactment of HB 2761 would increase expenditures by \$178,928, including \$137,196 from the State General Fund, in FY 2027 and \$171,101, including \$128,326 from the State General Fund, in FY 2028. The Division of the Budget notes that costs could be covered by fee fund revenue instead of the State General Fund once rules and regulations were promulgated and fees were established. The agency reports the estimated cost would include the addition of 2.00 positions that the agency would need for creating and maintaining the SLPA licensure program. Duties for these

positions would include the creation, review, and approval of forms to be used for applications for licensure, renewals, temporary licensure, and licensure reinstatements. The staff would be responsible for sending renewal reminders, secondary reminders, processing payments received, and assisting individuals with questions on the program, licensure procedures, licensure renewals, and reciprocity. In addition, the staff would maintain the related database. The agency anticipates that database requirements could be added to current structure for the cost of at least one escalated project and possibly an additional project dependent on the workload in the request. These projects would each have a one-time fee of approximately \$6,000 to add the licensure category to the database for a total of \$12,000.

Since the original fiscal effect statement was issued, the Office of Judicial Administration has provided information on the fiscal effect of HB 2761. The Office states that enactment of the bill could increase the number of cases filed in district courts because it would create a new crime. This could result in more time spent by judicial and nonjudicial personnel processing, researching, and hearing these cases. Since the new crime carries a class C nonperson, misdemeanor penalty, there could also be more supervision of offenders required by Court Services Officers. The Office estimates there could be the collection of supervision fees in those cases filed under the provisions of the bill, which would be deposited to the Correctional Supervision Fund, as well as docket fees and fines assessed, which would be deposited to the State General Fund. The bill would not affect other revenues to the Judicial Branch. However, a total fiscal effect cannot be estimated. The Kansas Department of Education states enactment of the bill would not result in a fiscal effect for the agency. Any fiscal effect associated with HB 2761 is not reflected in *The FY 2027 Governor's Budget Report*.

The Kansas Association of School Boards has also now provided information on the fiscal effect of this bill. The Association states that enactment of the bill could result in savings for local school districts, special education cooperatives, and interlocal districts. Currently school districts have difficulties hiring and retaining speech-language pathologists, in part because they are not often able to pay as much as they would make at hospitals and other areas of practice. The bill would allow schools more opportunities to utilize SLPAs services at a lower cost than current speech-language pathologist services. Potential savings could be offset by some increased expenses for administrative recordkeeping and supervision work of the speech-language pathologists' responsibilities to the SLPAs which are not currently a requirement.

Sincerely,



Adam C. Proffitt  
Director of the Budget

cc: Trisha Morrow, Judiciary  
Gabrielle Hull, Department of Education  
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Angie Stallbaumer, Kansas Association of School Boards  
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