



March 3, 2026

The Honorable Kellie Warren, Chairperson
Senate Committee on Judiciary
300 SW 10th Avenue, Room 346-S
Topeka, Kansas 66612

Dear Senator Warren:

SUBJECT: Fiscal Note for SB 351 by Senator Shallenburger

In accordance with KSA 75-3715a, the following fiscal note concerning SB 351 is respectfully submitted to your committee.

SB 351 would require correctional facilities and jails to allow inmates and prisoners to make telephone calls at no cost. The bill would prohibit charging inmates for phone calls and prohibit requiring collect telephone calls or prepaid collect accounts for making telephone calls. Jails and correctional facilities would still be allowed to adopt policies related to the duration and frequency of telephone calls made by inmates.

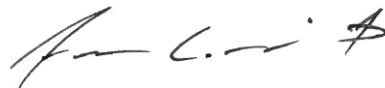
Estimated State Fiscal Effect			
	FY 2026	FY 2027	FY 2028
Expenditures			
State General Fund	--	\$3,905,065	\$4,013,933
Fee Fund(s)	--	--	--
Federal Fund	--	--	--
Total Expenditures	--	\$3,905,065	\$4,013,933
Revenues			
State General Fund	--	--	--
Fee Fund(s)	--	(\$1,231,046)	(\$1,561,264)
Federal Fund	--	--	--
Total Revenues	--	(\$1,231,046)	(\$1,561,264)
FTE Positions	--	--	--

The Department of Corrections indicates that currently, phone calls made by residents in the Department's facilities cost \$0.06 per minute, which is below the rate cap of \$0.07 per minute authorized by the Federal Communication Commission. The Department estimates that providing phone services with similar capabilities would require State General Fund expenditures of \$3,905,065 in FY 2027 and \$4,013,933 in FY 2028. Additionally, the Department receives reimbursements from the phone provider based on a cost recovery rate, and these receipts are credited to the Inmate Benefit Fund and are used to provide programs to the resident population, including General Education Development (GED) classes, career and technical education, and transitional housing. The Department estimates that \$1,231,046 in receipts would be lost to the Inmate Benefit Fund in FY 2027, and \$1,561,264 would be lost in FY 2028. The Department indicates that additional appropriations from the State General Fund would be needed to sustain these programs.

To formulate its estimates, the Department reviewed data from the Minnesota Department of Corrections, which has a program covering state correctional facilities and offering similar features. The cost to provide free calls in Minnesota was \$3.1 million in 2023, or \$374.12 per resident. Based on the Sentencing Commission's *FY 2026 Adult Inmate Prison Population Projections* report, the Department estimates that the resident population would reach 10,438 by the end of FY 2027 and 10,729 by the end of FY 2028. Any fiscal effect associated with SB 351 is not reflected in *The FY 2027 Governor's Budget Report*.

The Kansas Association of Counties indicates enactment of SB 351 would have a fiscal effect on counties, as the cost of phone services would have to be subsidized by counties. The cost would vary by county depending on the number of people in jail and the number of phone calls made, and a precise fiscal effect cannot be estimated at this time. The League of Kansas Municipalities indicates enactment of the bill would have a fiscal effect on cities because of increased telephone expenses; however, a precise fiscal effect cannot be estimated at this time.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Adam C. Proffitt", followed by a stylized flourish.

Adam C. Proffitt
Director of the Budget

cc: Jennifer King, Department of Corrections
Wendi Stark, League of Kansas Municipalities
Bruce Chladny, Kansas Association of Counties
Brendan Yorkey, Department of Transportation