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Laura Kelly, Governor

January 17, 2025

The Honorable Beverly Gossage, Chairperson Senate Committee on Public Health and Welfare 300 SW 10th Avenue, Room 142-S Topeka, Kansas 66612

Dear Senator Gossage:

SUBJECT: Fiscal Note for SB 3 by Joint Committee on Legislative Post Audit

In accordance with KSA 75-3715a, the following fiscal note concerning SB 3 is respectfully submitted to your committee.

SB 3 would require the Kansas Department of Health and Environment to audit hospital compliance with the requirements of the Kansas Lay Caregiver Act beginning in 2026. The results of the audits would be required to be compiled and reported to the House Committee on Health and Human Services and the Senate Committee on Public Health and Welfare on or before January 31st each year.

According to the Kansas Department of Health and Environment, enactment of SB 3 would increase administrative expenditures by at least \$325,000 in FY 2025 and \$245,000 in FY 2026, all from the State General Fund. The agency estimates 2.30 FTE positions would be necessary for two full time surveyors and a part-time administrative assistant to complete the annual audits and reporting for 180 hospitals statewide. Salaries and wages are estimated at \$185,000 per year for the positions with \$80,000 for each surveyor and \$25,000 for the administrative assistant. The surveyors would need vehicles and other costs for travel to audit the hospitals statewide. The initial cost for two vehicles is \$80,000 and it is likely that cost would be necessary every few years due to extensive traveling. Travel and lodging expenses are estimated at \$30,000 per year while maintenance and fuel for the two vehicles are estimated at \$20,000 per year. In addition, the agency estimates \$10,000 per year for IT and other office equipment and overhead costs.

Any fiscal effect associated with SB 3 is not reflected in *The FY 2026 Governor's Budget Report*.

Sincerely,

Adam C. Proffitt
Director of the Budget

cc: Amy Penrod, KDHE