

February 14, 2011

The Honorable Larry Powell, Chairperson
House Committee on Agriculture and Natural Resources
Statehouse, Room 149-S
Topeka, Kansas 66612

Dear Representative Powell:

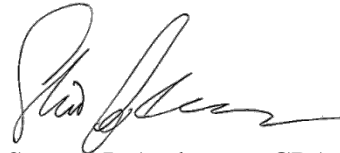
SUBJECT: Fiscal Note for HB 2231 by House Committee on Agriculture and Natural Resources

In accordance with KSA 75-3715a, the following fiscal note concerning HB 2231 is respectfully submitted to your committee.

The Water Bank Flex Account Program of the Kansas Department of Agriculture allows water right owners to get a five-year allotment of water to use as necessary, allowing greater use than the annual authorized quantity in some years, as long as the five-year allotment is not exceeded. HB 2231 would amend the Program to update the base period of water use and would also allow for current year enrollments.

The Department of Agriculture indicates that the bill could increase participation in the Program by irrigators or local governments, but the amount of the increase is not known. The cost to the Department to process each permit application is \$900 for technical review while the per permit fee charged to each applicant is \$400. The Department would implement the bill by using existing staff and available resources.

Sincerely,



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

cc: Mark Heim, Agriculture