

February 15, 2011

The Honorable Susan Wagle, Chairperson
Senate Committee on Commerce
Statehouse, Room 135-E
Topeka, Kansas 66612

Dear Senator Wagle:

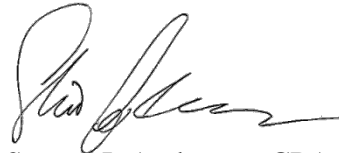
SUBJECT: Fiscal Note for SB 137 by Senate Committee on Utilities

In accordance with KSA 75-3715a, the following fiscal note concerning SB 137 is respectfully submitted to your committee.

SB 137 would change current law regarding unemployment insurance (UI). The bill would expand the availability of UI benefits to bus drivers directly employed by school districts. Current UI benefits are available only to bus drivers employed by private contractors.

If enacted, SB 137 would increase the benefit payments from the UI Trust Fund for unemployed bus drivers. The Department of Labor states that it does not have an estimated number of unemployed bus drivers who would be directly employed by school districts each year. However, if all private contract bus drivers were to become unemployed, the Department estimates that benefit payments of up to \$14.0 million may be paid over the benefit period for these individuals. Any fiscal effect associated with SB 137 is not reflected in *The FY 2012 Governor's Budget Report*.

Sincerely,



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

cc: Bill Schafer, Department of Labor