

February 11, 2013

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

Dear Representative Schwartz:

SUBJECT: Fiscal Note for HB 2171 by House Committee on Agriculture and Natural Resources

In accordance with KSA 75-3715a, the following fiscal note concerning HB 2171 is respectfully submitted to your committee.

HB 2171 would expand the Kansas Water Appropriations Act so that local interests could, through their board of county commissioners, propose a water management plan and an agreed upon local management area (ALMA) to the Chief Engineer of the Division of Water Resources of the Department of Agriculture. After a successful review by the Department and a public hearing on the ALMA proposal, the board of county commissioners could adopt the ALMA as a binding order upon the affected water right holders.

The Department of Agriculture estimates that there would be two ALMA proposals per year, and the cost of each review and hearing would cost approximately \$20,000. The Department, however, indicates that any costs associated with hearings would be borne by the local sponsors of the proposals, and any staff time required for reviews would be funded through existing resources. Any fiscal effect associated with HB 2171 is not reflected in *The FY 2014 Governor's Budget Report*.

Sincerely,



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

cc: Mark Heim, Agriculture
Melissa Wangemann, KAC