

March 7, 2014

The Honorable Jeff King, Chairperson
Senate Committee on Judiciary
Statehouse, Room 341-E
Topeka, Kansas 66612

Dear Senator King:

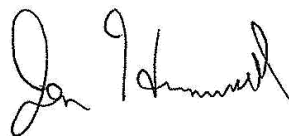
SUBJECT: Fiscal Note for SB 417 by Senate Committee on Ways and Means

In accordance with KSA 75-3715a, the following fiscal note concerning SB 417 is respectfully submitted to your committee.

The 2013 Legislature enacted HB 2019 which removed the Supreme Court Nominating Commission from the selection process for judicial vacancies of the Kansas Court of Appeals, and authorized the Governor to appoint the judges directly with the consent of a majority vote of the Kansas Senate. SB 417 would repeal this process and return to one which authorizes the Supreme Court Nominating Commission to nominate persons to serve as judges of the Court of Appeals. SB 417 details various aspects of the process, but would leave existing rules regarding the retention of Court of Appeals judges unchanged.

The Office of Judicial Administration indicates that SB 417 would increase the expenditures of the Judicial Branch for meetings of the Supreme Court Nominating Commission since it would return the manner of selecting Court of Appeals judges to that which was in place prior to FY 2014. Because the number of required meetings varies based upon the number of open positions, a precise estimate on the expenditures by the Judicial Branch that would be required cannot be provided. Any fiscal effect associated with SB 417 is not reflected in *The FY 2015 Governor's Budget Report*.

Sincerely,



Jon Hummell,
Interim Director of the Budget

cc: Mary Rinehart, Judiciary