

March 4, 2015

The Honorable Ron Ryckman, Jr., Chairperson
House Committee on Appropriations
Statehouse, Room 111-N
Topeka, Kansas 66612

Dear Representative Ryckman:

SUBJECT: Fiscal Note for HB 2058 by House Committee on Children and Seniors

In accordance with KSA 75-3715a, the following fiscal note concerning HB 2058 is respectfully submitted to your committee.

HB 2058 would create a lay caregiver designation for the purpose of assisting individuals leaving an inpatient setting. The bill would not require any payment for services provided by the lay caregiver in their relationship with the patient. The patient or patient's guardian could allow the lay caregiver access to the patient's medical records through the regular release process employed by the hospital for release of records to third parties. HB 2058 would require that hospitals note in the patient's file the declination or designation of a lay caregiver. If the patient designates a lay caregiver, pertinent information regarding that person would be noted in the patient's file and the hospital would be required to make a reasonable effort to notify the lay caregiver of the patient's release. Upon release the hospital would have to provide the lay caregiver with information pertaining to the aftercare assistance needed by the patient and relevant information for carrying out the plan. Nothing in the bill requires the designated lay caregiver to actually provide any care to the patient after release.

The Department of Health and Environment states that HB 2058 could increase costs for locally owned and operated hospitals related to records and notification of lay caregivers, but a fiscal effect cannot be estimated. HB 2058 would not affect state revenues or expenditures.

Sincerely,



Shawn Sullivan,
Director of the Budget

cc: Aaron Dunkel, KDHE
Brad Ridley, KDADS
Glenda Haverkamp, Insurance Department
Cathy Brown, Healing Arts