

February 18, 2015

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

Dear Senator King:

SUBJECT: Fiscal Note for SB 197 by Senate Committee on Judiciary

In accordance with KSA 75-3715a, the following fiscal note concerning SB 197 is respectfully submitted to your committee.

SB 197 would make several changes to statutes that govern the processes for electing members of the Supreme Court Nominating Commission and the District Judicial Nominating Commissions. The bill would deem each commission a public body, subject to the Kansas Open Meetings Act. The bill would authorize the Governor to fill vacancies on the Supreme Court Nominating Commission and would require appointments to be made without regard to political affiliation of the appointee.

The Office of Judicial Administration indicates various provisions in SB 197 which include a requirement that the Clerk of the Supreme Court create and maintain a roster of attorneys licensed to practice law in Kansas would increase annual Judicial Branch expenditures by a minimum of \$13,200 beginning in FY 2016. This cost could be reduced to some extent through the purchase of an online attorney registration system, but the Judicial Branch indicates it has not obtained current bids for such a system. Any fiscal effect associated with SB 197 is not reflected in *The FY 2016 Governor's Budget Report*.

Sincerely,



Shawn Sullivan,
Director of the Budget

cc: Mary Rinehart, Judiciary