

February 25, 2015

The Honorable Mary Pilcher-Cook, Chairperson
Senate Committee on Public Health and Welfare
Statehouse, Room 441-E
Topeka, Kansas 66612

Dear Senator Pilcher-Cook:

SUBJECT: Fiscal Note for SB 254 by Senate Committee on Public Health and Welfare

In accordance with KSA 75-3715a, the following fiscal note concerning SB 254 is respectfully submitted to your committee.

SB 254 would standardize certain regulatory statutes administered by the Behavioral Sciences Regulatory Board which apply to psychologists, professional counselors, social workers, addiction counselors, and marriage and family therapists. The bill would standardize statutes pertaining to licensure by reciprocity; reasons to deny, suspend, or revoke a license; and fees the Board may charge for licensure. Further, the bill would allow the Board to require fingerprinting and background checks on licensees; establish supervisory training standards for professional counselors, social workers, and marriage and family therapists; eliminate references to the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders; place licensed psychologists and social workers under the Kansas Administrative Procedures Act; and create a new category of licensure for Masters Level Addiction Counselors.

The Behavioral Sciences Regulatory Board indicates SB 254 would have no fiscal effect on state revenues or expenditures.

Sincerely,



Shawn Sullivan,
Director of the Budget

cc: Max Foster, Behavioral Sciences