

February 24, 2017

The Honorable Les Mason, Chairperson
House Committee on Commerce, Labor and Economic Development
Statehouse, Room 521-E
Topeka, Kansas 66612

Dear Representative Mason:

SUBJECT: Fiscal Note for HB 2356 by House Committee on Commerce, Labor and Economic Development

In accordance with KSA 75-3715a, the following fiscal note concerning HB 2356 is respectfully submitted to your committee.

Under current law, the Department of Administration awards contracts to certified businesses that employ a certain percentage of individuals with disabilities, if the certified business's total bid cost is not more than 10.0 percent higher than the lowest competitive bid. HB 2356 would clarify the definition of "individuals with disabilities" or "individual with a disability" to mean any individual who has been certified by the Department for Aging and Disability Services or the Department for Children and Families as having a physical or mental impairment which is a barrier to employment or has a severe and persistent mental illness. Currently, certifying individuals with disabilities is required by only the Department for Aging and Disability Services. The Department of Administration would be responsible for certifying that businesses meet the requirements to remain a certified business every three years.

The Department for Children and Families indicates that the bill could result in additional work to certify individuals with disabilities; however, it could be handled within existing resources and operations. Adding the Department for Children and Families as an agency that can certify individuals with disabilities for the purposes of determining certified businesses is not expected to increase the number of certified businesses that are eligible for the 10.0 percent bidding preference. However, if it does the Department of Administration states there could be additional procurement costs, which would depend upon the value of the product or service being acquired.

Sincerely,



Shawn Sullivan,
Director of the Budget

cc: Jackie Aubert, Children & Families
Colleen Becker, Department of Administration