

March 6, 2019

The Honorable Don Hineman, Chairperson
House Committee on Rural Revitalization
Statehouse, Room 186-N
Topeka, Kansas 66612

Dear Representative Hineman:

SUBJECT: Fiscal Note for HB 2342 by House Committee on Rural Revitalization

In accordance with KSA 75-3715a, the following fiscal note concerning HB 2342 is respectfully submitted to your committee.

HB 2342 would remove prohibitions on the request and implementation of food assistance waivers for Able-Bodied Adults without Dependents (ABAWDs) through the US Department of Agriculture. HB 2342 would add clarification that ABAWDs must meet the food assistance work requirements unless otherwise exempt. Non-Exempt ABAWDs are limited to three months of Food Assistance in a 36-month period if not meeting the work requirements. HB 2342 would allow the Secretary of the Department for Children and Families (DCF) to request to waive the time limit for individuals in all or part of the state for areas demonstrating high unemployment or a lack of enough jobs.

DCF indicates that removal of the prohibition of requesting an ABAWD waiver would allow flexibility in administering programs based on the circumstances of the individual as well as the overall state of the economy. HB 2342 would allow the Secretary of DCF to request a waiver based on economic conditions in the state. Since no areas need a waiver and none are being sought, this bill would have no fiscal impact now. The future impact of HB 2342 cannot be estimated at this time as it cannot be determined when or how significant economic conditions would warrant a waiver request. In the event a waiver was requested, additional expenditures could be required to meet the administrative costs related to determining eligibility and managing cases. These costs would require matching dollars from the State General Fund. There would be no fiscal impact related to the actual food assistance benefits paid to individuals. Any fiscal effect associated with HB 2342 is not reflected in *The FY 2020 Governor's Budget Report*.

Sincerely,



Larry L. Campbell
Director of the Budget

cc: Jackie Aubert, Children & Families