

February 8, 2022

The Honorable Fred Patton, Chairperson
House Committee on Judiciary
Statehouse, Room 582-N
Topeka, Kansas 66612

Dear Representative Patton:

SUBJECT: Fiscal Note for HB 2542 by Representatives Samsel, et al.

In accordance with KSA 75-3715a, the following fiscal note concerning HB 2542 is respectfully submitted to your committee.

HB 2542 would create the crime of abuse of a sports official. Actions giving rise to abuse of a sports official would include (1) shoving, kicking, spitting on or otherwise causing physical contact with a sports official or threatening to engage in such conduct; (2) approaching a sports official in a menacing, threatening, irate or violent manner that would cause a reasonable person to fear for their safety; or (3) directing threatening, abusive, or obscene language, or making obscene gestures toward a sports official that would cause a reasonable person to fear for their safety. Abuse of a sports official would be a class B person misdemeanor unless the sports official is less than 18 years of age, in which case the crime would be a class A person misdemeanor. The bill would define "sports official" to mean any person who serves as a referee, umpire, linesman, timekeeper, assistant, inspector, or judge, or performs similar functions at a competitive event, whether paid or unpaid.

The Office of Judicial Administration indicates that enactment of the bill could increase the number of cases filed in district courts because it creates a new crime. This, in turn, would increase the time spent by district court judicial and nonjudicial personnel in processing, researching, and hearing cases. Since this crime carries a misdemeanor penalty, there could also be more supervision of offenders required to be performed by court services officers. In addition, enactment of the bill could result in the collection of additional docket fees, supervision fees and fines assessed in those cases filed under the provisions of the bill. However, a fiscal effect cannot be estimated because the number of additional cases is unknown.

The Sentencing Commission and the Department of Corrections indicates that enactment of the bill would have no fiscal effect because the crimes would be misdemeanors. Any fiscal effect associated with HB 2542 is not reflected in *The FY 2023 Governor's Budget Report*.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Adam Proffitt", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Adam Proffitt
Director of the Budget

cc: Scott Schultz, Sentencing Commission
Randy Bowman, Corrections
Vicki Jacobsen, Judiciary