

March 1, 2023

The Honorable Francis Awerkamp, Chairperson
House Committee on Welfare Reform
300 SW 10th Avenue, Room 152-S
Topeka, Kansas 66612

Dear Representative Awerkamp:

SUBJECT: Fiscal Note for HB 2255 by House Committee on Welfare Reform

In accordance with KSA 75-3715a, the following fiscal note concerning HB 2255 is respectfully submitted to your committee.

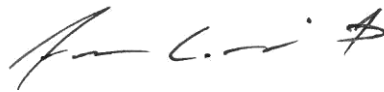
HB 2255 would revise the Municipal Housing Law to require a municipality or housing authority to implement work requirements, as set forth in the bill, for an able-bodied adult to apply for housing assistance or federal funds distributed by the municipality or housing authority. The municipality or housing authority would also be directed to adopt rules and regulations to implement the work requirements. In addition, the municipality or housing authority would be required to apply with the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development by January 1, 2025, for approval of implementing the work requirements.

The Kansas Human Rights Commission believes there is a conflict between the provisions of HB 2255 and the Kansas Act Against Discrimination. For example, if an “able-bodied” renter is given preference over a household where one of the adults in the household is staying at home to care for a healthy child over the age of four months, the latter adult could file a complaint under the Kansas Act Against Discrimination alleging discrimination based on familial status. In FY 2022, the Commission received eight complaints of housing discrimination, none alleging discrimination based on familial status. The Commission is unable to estimate the number of complaints that could be generated as a result of enactment of HB 2255. However, if the number of complaints increases, the Commission would be unable to perform its duties within existing resources and would request additional funding. Any fiscal effect associated with HB 2255 is not reflected in *The FY 2024 Governor’s Budget Report*.

The Kansas Association of Counties indicates that HB 2255 could limit the number of people who are able to receive housing assistance from counties with housing authorities, which

could affect available revenue. The counties with housing authorities would have to adopt rules and regulations to implement the work requirements for housing assistance; however, the Association is unable to estimate the fiscal effect of implementing the bill's provisions. The League of Kansas Municipalities indicates HB 2255 would require municipalities or housing authorities to develop and implement new rules and procedures to operate housing projects which could require more time and training for city-appointed officials, thereby increasing costs; however, the League is unable to estimate a fiscal effect.

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: Ruth Glover, Human Rights Commission
Wendi Stark, League of Kansas Municipalities
Jay Hall, Kansas Association of Counties
Sherry Rentfro, Department of Commerce
Kim Holter, Department for Children & Families
Leigh Keck, Department for Aging & Disability Services
Vicki Jacobsen, Judiciary