

February 12, 2024

The Honorable Susan Concannon, Chairperson
House Committee on Child Welfare and Foster Care
300 SW 10th Avenue, Room 152-S
Topeka, Kansas 66612

Dear Representative Concannon:

SUBJECT: Fiscal Note for HB 2629 by House Committee on Child Welfare and Foster Care

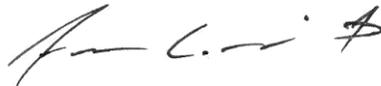
In accordance with KSA 75-3715a, the following fiscal note concerning HB 2629 is respectfully submitted to your committee.

HB 2629 would remove the requirement for a coroner to complete and sign a nonsuspicious child death form after an investigation and autopsy and would remove the requirement for the coroner to notify the Chairperson of the State Child Death Review Board within 30 days upon determination of a suspicious circumstance or unknown cause. The bill would remove the requirement for the coroner to attempt to notify the parent or legal guardian of the results of a child autopsy and instead add the requirement that the notification to the parent or legal guardian prior to the autopsy include information regarding the autopsy and instructions on how to obtain a copy of the finding and autopsy results. The Secretary of Health and Environment would be required to provide a copy of death certificates to the Board as specified in the bill. The bill would also clarify the review duties and compensation of the Board. The bill would add provisions related to the confidentiality of records to allow access to statistics or conclusions of the Board for the purpose of procuring and maintaining financial grants. The Board would be required to maintain records for at least 15 years from the date a case is closed. The Board is currently required to maintain records permanently.

According to the Kansas Attorney General's Office enactment of HB 2629 would result in additional revenue as the agency would receive private and federal grants, although a total could not be estimated. The agency would be able to handle additional expenditures related to compensation and subsistence for Board members within existing resources.

The Kansas Department of Health and Environment states enactment of the bill would not have a fiscal effect on agency operations. The agency notes the bill would codify an existing process. The Kansas State Board of Healing Arts also reports that passage of the bill would not have a fiscal effect for the agency. Any fiscal effect associated with HB 2629 is not reflected in *The FY 2025 Governor's Budget Report*.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Adam C. Proffitt". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a distinct flourish at the end.

Adam C. Proffitt
Director of the Budget

cc: Amy Penrod, Department of Health & Environment
Susan Gile, Board of Healing Arts
William Hendrix, Office of the Attorney General