

February 21, 2024

The Honorable Adam Thomas, Chairperson
House Committee on Education
300 SW 10th Avenue, Room 218-N
Topeka, Kansas 66612

Dear Representative Thomas:

SUBJECT: Fiscal Note for HB 2769 by House Committee on Child Welfare and Foster Care

In accordance with KSA 75-3715a, the following fiscal note concerning HB 2769 is respectfully submitted to your committee.

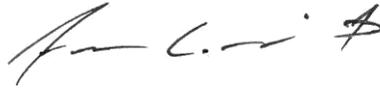
HB 2769 would require that all school districts make available a nutritionally adequate breakfast and lunch free of charge to any student who requests such meal, without consideration of the student's eligibility for a federally funded free or reduced-price meal. Public schools and school districts would be required to participate in and comply with federal requirements for the federal National School Lunch Program and federal School Breakfast Program. Each year, each school district would be required to determine whether a school or district is qualified to elect to participate in the federal community eligibility provision and would be required to make an election if qualified.

Subject to appropriations, the State Board of Education would be required to provide meal reimbursements to public schools and public school districts that provide free meals in an amount not to exceed the total cost of meals claimed by students pursuant to the bill, accounting for the federal reimbursement amounts that schools or districts receive. The State Board of Education could adopt rules and regulations to carry out the provisions of this bill.

The Department of Education indicates that the enactment of the bill would require additional appropriations for meal reimbursements to school districts. However, the agency cannot estimate the additional funds that would be required for the additional meal reimbursements. In addition, the agency estimates that it would require 1.00 FTE Data Analyst position at a cost of \$108,000, all from the State General Fund, beginning in FY 2025. Of this amount \$104,000 would be for salaries and wages (including fringe benefits), as well as other operating expenditures totaling \$4,000 for information technology equipment, phone and internet access, copier fees, as

well as office rent. The new position would gather, develop, and test data collection processes from school district data. Expenditures in future fiscal years would be approximately the same amounts. Any fiscal effect associated with HB 2769 is not reflected in *The FY 2025 Governor's Budget Report*.

Sincerely,

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

Adam C. Proffitt
Director of the Budget

cc: Gabrielle Hull, Department of Education