

March 11, 2021

The Honorable Richard Hilderbrand, Chairperson
Senate Committee on Public Health and Welfare
Statehouse, Room 445A-S
Topeka, Kansas 66612

Dear Senator Hilderbrand:

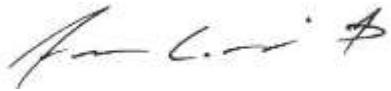
SUBJECT: Fiscal Note for SB 276 by Senate Committee on Federal and State Affairs

In accordance with KSA 75-3715a, the following fiscal note concerning SB 276 is respectfully submitted to your committee.

SB 276 would prohibit blindness from being a determining factor for denial or restriction of legal custody, residency, or parenting time when it is determined to otherwise be in the best interests of a child. An individual's blindness would not serve as a basis for denial of the individual's appointment as a guardian, denial of the individual's licensure as a family foster home, or as a basis for issuance of certain specified orders which are averse to the individual. Any adverse orders would need to include specific findings of fact stating the basis for the adverse order and why provision of supportive parenting services is not a reasonable accommodation.

The Department for Children and Families indicates that SB 276 would have no fiscal effect on the agency. The Office of Judicial Administration indicates that SB 276 could have a fiscal effect on revenue and expenditures of the Judiciary. The bill would require the court to consider specific items in certain cases if one of the parties is blind. While this could increase the workload of judges and make cases more complicated, the workload is not anticipated to be significant for this agency. However, it is not possible to estimate the number of additional court cases that would arise or how complex and time-consuming they would be. Therefore, a fiscal effect cannot be determined. Any fiscal effect associated with SB 276 is not reflected in *The FY 2022 Governor's Budget Report*.

Sincerely,



Adam Proffitt
Director of the Budget

cc: Debbie Thomas, Judiciary
Kim Holter, Children & Families