Steven J. Anderson, CPA, MBA, Director



Sam Brownback, Governor

February 24, 2011

The Honorable Steve Brunk, Chairperson House Committee on Federal and State Affairs Statehouse, Room 149-S Topeka, Kansas 66612

Dear Representative Brunk:

SUBJECT: Fiscal Note for HB 2300 by House Committee on Federal and State Affairs

In accordance with KSA 75-3715a, the following fiscal note concerning HB 2300 is respectfully submitted to your committee.

HB 2300 pertains to state legislators. The bill would require employers to reinstate anyone who becomes a legislator upon their return from service in the Legislature. The bill establishes requirements for anyone seeking such reinstatement and for the employer and grants authorization for an application to the Attorney General requesting that the General represent anyone seeking rights or benefits under the bill. The bill does not authorize the court to order the employer to reimburse the Attorney General's Office for its litigation costs and expressly states that no fees or court costs may be taxed against the person commencing the action. There are circumstances specified in the bill under which an employer does not have to reinstate an employee.

It is not anticipated that enactment of HB 2300 would have any fiscal effect on the Kansas Legislature. The Attorney General indicates the bill would make the Office responsible for the filing and handling of additional litigation with no means to provide for reimbursement of the litigation expense. Although the bill would not likely create a large influx of cases, it is not possible to predict the exact number of additional cases the Office would have to investigate or prosecute. The Office believes the overall fiscal effect any additional expenses would be accommodated within the existing budget for costs and personnel in civil litigation.

Sincerely,

Steven J. Anderson, CPA, MBA Director of the Budget

cc: Pat Higgins, Administration Megan Pinegar, Attorney General's Office