

February 9, 2012

The Honorable Dwayne Umbarger, Chairperson
Senate Committee on Transportation
Statehouse, Room 441-E
Topeka, Kansas 66612

Dear Senator Umbarger:

SUBJECT: Fiscal Note for SB 342 by Senate Committee on Transportation

In accordance with KSA 75-3715a, the following fiscal note concerning SB 342 is respectfully submitted to your committee.

SB 342 would enact the Safety Corridor Act. The act would authorize the Secretary of Transportation to establish and administer a safety corridor program. The bill defines "safety corridor." The Secretary could designate highway safety corridors on highways that are designated as interstate, United States, or state highways. When within the corporate limits of any city, a safety corridor could not be authorized without a resolution passed by the city governing body. If the city governing body were to remove support for the safety corridor, the Secretary of Transportation would be required to remove the signage dedicating such highway in the city as a safety corridor.

The bill would also create an Executive Safety Council composed of representatives appointed by the Secretary of Transportation who would be charged with developing and maintaining the Strategic Highway Safety Plan. Representatives may be appointed from the Department of Revenue, the Kansas Department of Transportation, the Kansas Department of Health and Environment, the Kansas Legislature, transportation safety academia, transportation safety businesses, law enforcement, or local governments. The Secretary would establish criteria and designate safety corridors at the recommendation of the Executive Safety Council. Criteria would include, but not be limited to, accident rates, fatality rates, number of fatal and serious injury crashes, and traffic volumes.

The Secretary of Transportation would establish guidelines to evaluate whether a highway segment designated as a safety corridor continues to meet established criteria. If the

Secretary determines a highway segment no longer meets the criteria, the highway’s designation as a safety corridor would be revoked. SB 342 would require the Secretary to report annually to the House Committee on Transportation and the Senate Committee on Transportation concerning the implementation and operation of the safety corridor program. The report would need to be completed prior to the tenth day of each regular session of the Kansas Legislature.

The bill would also create the Safety Corridor Fund to be administered by the Secretary of Transportation. Expenditures from this fund would be used solely for programs within designated safety corridors, including appropriate signage, education, enforcement, and other purposes deemed appropriate by the Secretary. SB 342 would designate 0.9 percent of fines collected by district courts to the Safety Corridor Fund. Fines would double if a person is convicted of a traffic infraction, which is defined as a moving violation in the bill, in a designated safety corridor. In addition, the Safety Corridor Fund would receive half of the fines collected by municipal courts for moving violations within a designated safety corridor.

Estimated State Fiscal Effect				
	FY 2012 SGF	FY 2012 All Funds	FY 2013 SGF	FY 2013 All Funds
Revenue	--	--	--	\$177,300
Expenditure	--	--	--	\$175,500
FTE Pos.	--	--	--	--

The Kansas Department of Transportation (KDOT) states it anticipates establishing safety corridors on a portion of K-10 Highway in Douglas and Johnson Counties and on a portion of U.S. 54 Highway in Wichita. In addition, KDOT would work with the Executive Safety Council to establish criteria and would select three additional safety corridors. Additional expenditures would include five safety corridors requiring \$5,000 in signage per corridor and \$150,500 in additional patrol costs, for a total of \$175,500. These expenditures would be paid for from the Safety Corridor Fund established in the bill. KDOT states the installation of new signs would be a one-time cost for the five planned corridors, but if more safety corridors are established in the future, then there would be approximately \$5,000 in signage for each additional safety corridor. The \$150,500 in additional patrol costs would be an ongoing expenditure. Revenues to the Safety Corridor Fund associated with the 0.9 percent of fines collected by the district court are estimated at \$177,300 by KDOT. KDOT is unable to estimate the additional revenues that would be collected from municipal court collections.

The League of Kansas Municipalities states any fiscal effect upon Kansas municipalities resulting from the passage of SB 342 would be negligible. The Office of Judicial Administration states enactment of SB 342 could require additional time from district court clerks in answering questions from the public regarding safety corridor offenses and in determining if the correct fine has been assessed. Until the courts have been able to operate under the provisions of the bill, the

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Office is unable to determine a fiscal effect at this time. Any fiscal effect associated with SB 342 is not reflected in *The FY 2013 Governor's Budget Report*.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Steven J. Anderson", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

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

cc: Ben Cleeves, KDOT
Steve Neske, Revenue
Jeff Russell, Legislative Services
Aaron Dunkel, KDHE
Melissa Wangemann, KAC
Larry Baer, LKM
Mary Rinehart, Judiciary