

January 29, 2013

The Honorable Arlen Siegfried, Chairperson
House Committee on Federal and State Affairs
Statehouse, Room 185-N
Topeka, Kansas 66612

Dear Representative Siegfried:

SUBJECT: Fiscal Note for HB 2037 by House Committee on Federal and State Affairs

In accordance with KSA 75-3715a, the following fiscal note concerning HB 2037 is respectfully submitted to your committee.

HB 2037 would allow historic artifacts, monuments, symbols, and texts, including, but not limited to, religious materials to be displayed in Kansas public schools and buildings and on Kansas public properties. In public schools, such displays must be in connection with a course of study that is academic, balanced, objective, and not devotional in nature; and neither favor nor disfavor religion, generally, or any particular religious belief.

Historic artifacts, monuments, symbols and texts, including, but not limited to, religious materials could be displayed in Kansas public buildings and on Kansas public properties if the manner in which they were displayed:

1. Is balanced, objective and not solely religious;
2. Neither favors nor disfavors religion generally;
3. Neither favors nor disfavors any religious belief; and
4. Promotes the display of Kansas historic, cultural, political, and general heritage and achievements.

According to the Judicial Branch, passage of HB 2037 could increase the number of cases filed in district court and the number of appeals relating to display of religious materials in public places. This in turn would increase the time spent by district court and appellate court judicial and nonjudicial personnel in processing, researching and hearing cases. The agency is unable to give a precise estimate of the fiscal effect, however, until the courts have had an

The Honorable Arlen Siegfried, Chairperson

January 29, 2013

Page 2—HB 2037

opportunity to operate under the provisions of the bill. Any fiscal effect associated with HB 2037 is not reflected in *The FY 2014 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: Willie Prescott, Attorney General's Office
Mary Rinehart, Judiciary
Matthew Chappell, Historical Society