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Shawn Sullivan, Director of the Budget

Sam Brownback, Governor

February 23, 2016

The Honorable Ron Ryckman, Jr., Chairperson House Committee on Appropriations Statehouse, Room 111-N Topeka, Kansas 66612

Dear Representative Ryckman:

SUBJECT: Fiscal Note for HB 2708 by House Committee on Appropriations

In accordance with KSA 75-3715a, the following fiscal note concerning HB 2708 is respectfully submitted to your committee.

HB 2708 would amend the Mental Health Technicians Licensure Act as administered by the Kansas State Board of Nursing. The bill would remove the current cap of \$40 on the fee for the examination and reexamination for a Licensed Mental Health Technician (LMHT) and would increase the amount to \$215. The bill would also allow for the examination fee to be paid directly to the examination service by the LMHT applicant. The bill includes updated language regarding the role of LMHTs.

The Board has recently approved the opening of two LMHT programs: one at Fort Scott Community College and the other at Barton County Community College, with an application for a third program pending. The Board has contracted with a testing company for the development of an updated exam and developed an agreement for the future administration of the exam at testing sites in Topeka, Great Bend, and Wichita. The new exam would cost \$215, reflecting the true cost. The increased workload for the Board to handle the licensure of LMHTs would be offset by the revenue received by applicants for licensure.

Sincerely,

Shawn Sullivan,

Director of the Budget