

February 11, 2022

The Honorable Steve Huebert, Chairperson  
House Committee on Education  
Statehouse, Room 218-N  
Topeka, Kansas 66612

Dear Representative Huebert:

**SUBJECT:** Fiscal Note for HB 2621 by House Committee on Education

In accordance with KSA 75-3715a, the following fiscal note concerning HB 2621 is respectfully submitted to your committee.

HB 2621 would provide that any child who established American Sign Language as a foundational language while being deaf or hard-of-hearing who gains access to hearing by amplification, medical intervention, natural cause, or other means, could not be dismissed from special education services or transferred out of or denied attendance at the Kansas School for the Deaf for the reason of access to hearing.

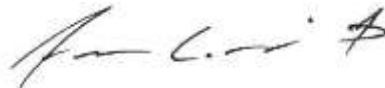
Estimated State Fiscal Effect				
	FY 2022 SGF	FY 2022 All Funds	FY 2023 SGF	FY 2023 All Funds
Revenue	--	--	--	--
Expenditure	--	--	\$112,424	\$112,424
FTE Pos.	--	--	--	2.00

According to the School for the Deaf, the agency has an admissions protocol that occurs through a collaborative process between the local education agency (LEA) and the parent or guardian of the student. Currently, the LEA or the parent cannot decide admittance to the School for the Deaf without the School being involved in the individualized education plan. The School currently reserves the right to refuse admission to a student if the student is hearing or requires services beyond the scope of what the School can provide. The School indicates that if a student's

unaided hearing, as indicated by audiometry, would be within the normal range, the student's educational needs would require auditory access that the school cannot currently provide.

With the enactment of HB 2621, the School states it would need additional FY 2023 expenditures totaling \$112,424 from the State General Fund, including \$75,434 for 1.00 FTE Specialist with a master's level degree and \$36,990 for 1.00 FTE Paraprofessional to assist with auditory access. The agency notes that depending on the number of students admitted, there could be a need for additional positions, which would increase the annual cost. Any fiscal effect associated with HB 2621 is not reflected in *The FY 2023 Governor's Budget Report*.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Adam Proffitt", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Adam Proffitt  
Director of the Budget

cc: Jeanette Magathan, School for the Deaf