February 18, 2020

The Honorable Steve Huebert, Chairperson
House Committee on Education
Statehouse, Room 286-N
Topeka, Kansas  66612

Dear Representative Huebert:

SUBJECT:  Fiscal Note for HB 2676 by House Committee on Education

In accordance with KSA 75-3715a, the following fiscal note concerning HB 2676 is respectfully submitted to your committee.

HB 2676 would amend current law on bullying. Any policy to prohibit bullying or any plan to address bullying reporting and the resolution process adopted by a school district would have to meet the following requirements:  (1) be published on the district’s website with a link prominently posted on the homepage; (2) be published on the website of any attendance center; (3) be distributed annually to parents and guardians upon enrollment of a student; (4) be included in any district or school handbook; and (5) be included in any staff training materials.

The bill would define the “bullying reporting and resolution process” to include:  (1) reporting procedures, including anonymous reporting procedures; (2) reporting forms; (3) names of school district and attendance center personnel to whom reports are made or delivered; (4) a timeline for resolving bullying incidents; (5) interventions and consequences for victims and perpetrators of bullying; and (6) training and educational requirements or materials for students and school staff members. All information would include instructions for the public on how to obtain and view any training and educational requirements for students and school staff members.

Each school district would be required to report annually to the State Board of Education for each attendance center concerning the number of unique bullying incidents, the types of bully incidents, and the number of bullying incidents resolved and the manner in which resolution was reached. The State Board of Education would be required to submit an annual summary report to the House Committee on Education and the Senate Committee on Education.
The Department of Education states that the enactment of HB 2676 would require expenditures of approximately $15,000 from the State General Fund in FY 2021 to collect, review and report the required data for the required report. Any fiscal effect as a result of the enactment of HB 2676 has not been included in The FY 2021 Governor's Budget Report.

Sincerely,

Larry L. Campbell
Director of the Budget

cc: Dale Dennis, Education