March 18, 2019

The Honorable Gene Suellentrop, Chairperson
Senate Committee on Public Health and Welfare
Statehouse, Room 441-E
Topeka, Kansas  66612

Dear Senator Suellentrop:

SUBJECT:  Fiscal Note for SB 223 by Senate Committee on Federal and State Affairs

In accordance with KSA 75-3715a, the following fiscal note concerning SB 223 is respectfully submitted to your committee.

SB 223 would create the Anesthesiologist Assistant Licensure Act.  In order to practice in Kansas, anesthesiologist assistants would have to be licensed by the Kansas Board of Healing Arts beginning January 6, 2020.  The bill includes definitions of terms, establishes licensure requirements, maximum license fees, and causes for revoking, suspending, or limiting a license.  The bill would limit the number of anesthesiologist assistants an anesthesiologist could supervise at any one time to four.  The bill would establish the Anesthesiologist Assistant Council within the Board of Healing Arts to advise the Board in carrying out the provisions of the Act.

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<th>Estimated State Fiscal Effect</th>
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<tr>
<td>FY 2019 SGF</td>
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<tr>
<td>Revenue</td>
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<td>Expenditure</td>
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<td>FTE Pos.</td>
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The State Board of Healing Arts states that enactment of this bill would result in significant change in agency responsibilities. The Board would need to train licensing staff on this new licensing group. Board staff would also need to draft and implement rules and regulations and create applications, forms, booklets, and other affected on-line or agency website items to reflect the new regulatory status of licensure and the new scope of practice. Reports and complaints of practitioners not complying with new licensure category requirements may increase the number of investigations and disciplinary cases assigned to and performed by board staff. Substantial
changes would also need to be made to the Board’s electronic database and on-line renewal system; however, most of this work could be accomplished in-house with existing IT staff.

The Board states that agency staff is currently at full workload capacity. Any increase in complaints, investigations, and caseloads would necessitate an increase in staff positions to accomplish the agency’s statutory requirements. The agency estimates 1.00 additional legal assistant FTE position would be required to research and assist with drafting rules and regulations mandated by this bill. The Board estimates additional expenditures in FY 2020 of $63,483 from the agency fee fund. The amount includes $47,023 for salary and wage expenditures and $16,460 for other operating expenditures, of which $7,000 would be one-time expenditures for office equipment.

The Board also estimates additional revenue of $4,000 in FY 2020 from licensing fees for the new group, 10.0 percent of those fees would be deposited in the State General Fund and the rest would be deposited in the agency fee fund. Any fiscal effect associated with SB 223 is not reflected in The FY 2020 Governor’s Budget Report.

Sincerely,

Larry L. Campbell
Director of the Budget

cc: Beth Visocsky, Board of Healing Arts