

March 11, 2021

The Honorable Fred Patton, Chairperson  
House Committee on Judiciary  
Statehouse, Room 519C-N  
Topeka, Kansas 66612

Dear Representative Patton:

**SUBJECT:** Fiscal Note for HB 2375 by House Committee on Judiciary

In accordance with KSA 75-3715a, the following fiscal note concerning HB 2375 is respectfully submitted to your committee.

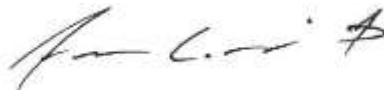
HB 2375 would amend the crime of criminal possession of a knife by a convicted felon to include in the definition a pocketknife with a blade longer than two inches and a box cutter. If possessed by a person who is incarcerated, the bill would include in the definition of “knife” an item with a sharp blade or edge or any item shaped as a pointed instrument or a cutting instrument that was originally manufactured as a non-pointed or non-cutting instrument. In addition, sword and machete would be added to the definition of a “weapon.”

The Kansas Sentencing Commission estimates that enactment of HB 2375 may have an effect on prison admissions and bed space, but that this effect cannot be determined at this time. The current estimated available bed capacity is 9,420 for males and 948 for females. Based upon the Commission’s most recent ten-year projection contained in its *FY 2020 Adult Inmate Prison Population Projections* report, it is estimated that the year-end population for available male capacity will be under capacity by 1,287 inmates in FY 2021 and 1,241 inmates in FY 2022. The Department of Corrections indicates that the bill would have no fiscal effect on the agency.

The Office of Judicial Administration indicates that enactment of the bill could result in more charges or cases being filed, which could increase the amount of time spent by judges and court staff in processing and hearing these charges or cases. The Office also indicates the additional charges or cases could result in additional docket fees, fines, and other revenues

collected by courts. However, a precise fiscal effect cannot be estimated. Any fiscal effect associated with HB 2375 is not reflected in *The FY 2022 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: Scott Schultz, Sentencing Commission  
Randy Bowman, Corrections  
Debbie Thomas, Judiciary