January 17, 2023

The Honorable Fred Patton, Chairperson
House Committee on Judiciary
300 SW 10th Avenue, Room 582-N
Topeka, Kansas  66612

Dear Representative Patton:

SUBJECT: Fiscal Note for HB 2027 by Representatives Wasinger and Ballard

In accordance with KSA 75-3715a, the following fiscal note concerning HB 2027 is respectfully submitted to your committee.

HB 2027 would add that designated beneficiaries of real or personal property who are convicted of feloniously killing, or procuring the killing of, another person would not take an interest in the real or personal property of the decedent. The bill would also specify that the court may, upon its own motion or upon the written request of any party, prohibit the sale, distribution, spending, or use of an asset or interest by a person who has been arrested for or charged with the felonious killing, or procuring the killing of, the decedent. Any order entered may be granted ex parte upon a showing of criminal charges filed against a person interested in the estate.

Any order issued would remain in effect until modified or terminated by the court. Upon written request of a person subject to an order to modify or terminate the order, the court would be required to hold a hearing. The court would be required to terminate the order if the court finds that any of the following events related to the arrest or charges that were the basis for the order have occurred:

1. Dismissal of all charges;
2. Acquittal of all charges;
3. Conviction or other disposition at or following trial; or
4. Expungement of the arrest records by a court order.
The Office of Judicial Administration states enactment of the bill could have a fiscal effect on expenditures because the bill’s provisions could increase the workload for court employees and judges processing and deciding cases. The Office states a fiscal cannot be estimated until the Judicial Branch has had an opportunity to operate under the bill’s provisions. Any fiscal effect associated with HB 2027 is not reflected in The FY 2024 Governor’s Budget Report.

Sincerely,

Adam Proffitt
Director of the Budget

cc: Vicki Jacobsen, Judiciary