January 28, 2011

The Honorable Pat Colloton, Chairperson
House Committee on Corrections and Juvenile Justice
Statehouse, Room 167-W
Topeka, Kansas  66612

Dear Representative Colloton:

SUBJECT: Fiscal Note for HB 2032 by Representative Smith

In accordance with KSA 75-3715a, the following fiscal note concerning HB 2032 is respectfully submitted to your committee.

HB 2032 would amend existing law concerning the duties of county attorneys and district attorneys by requiring that they publish a monthly report of all criminal actions and proceedings and all juvenile offender proceedings. This report must be published in a manner that makes it accessible to the public and must be filed with the Office of the Attorney General, where it would be posted on the Attorney General’s official website as an open public record.

The Kansas Association of Counties presumes that many county and district attorney offices already track this sort of information, and that there would be a negligible fiscal effect from passage of HB 2032. Two counties with small populations were contacted, however, and in both cases, representatives of these counties felt that there would be a fiscal effect beyond what the county could easily afford. Trego County estimates that the cost of publishing this information in the newspaper could be $600-$840 annually. Woodson County was not able to provide an estimate of costs, but believed that there would be an expense related to publishing the information in the newspaper or upgrading the county website. There would be no fiscal effect to the state from passage of this bill.

Sincerely,

Steven J. Anderson, CPA, MBA
Director of the Budget

cc: Mary Rinehart, Judiciary
Melissa Wangemann, KS Assoc. of Counties
Larry Baer, League of KS Municipalities
Meagan Pinegar, Attorney General’s Office