February 8, 2011

The Honorable Lana Gordon, Chairperson
House Committee on Education Budget
Statehouse, Room 151-S
Topeka, Kansas  66612

Dear Representative Gordon:

SUBJECT:  Fiscal Note for HB 2090 by House Committee on Education

In accordance with KSA 75-3715a, the following fiscal note concerning HB 2090 is respectfully submitted to your committee.

HB 2090 would provide that any student who is subjected to hazardous walking conditions, as established by the Kansas Board of Education rules and regulations, while en route to or from school, to be provided transportation by school districts. Under current law, school districts are required to provide transportation only to students living over 2.5 miles from school. It is upon that basis that state aid is calculated.

According to the Kansas Department of Education, there are approximately 66,300 students who live less than 2.5 miles from school who are being provided transportation by school districts. The Department states that it is likely a very high percentage of these students are being transported because of hazardous walking or driving conditions. It is likely that the number of students affected by HB 2090 would be at least the number of students currently being transported who live less than 2.5 miles from school. Using the cost estimate of $360 per year per pupil, enactment of HB 2090 would increase transportation aid to school districts in FY 2012 by approximately $23,868,000 ($360 x 66,300 students), all from the State General Fund. Any fiscal effect associated with HB 2090 is not reflected in The FY 2012 Governor’s Budget Report.

Sincerely,

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

cc:  Dale Dennis, Education