February 14, 2011

The Honorable Anthony Brown, Chairperson
House Committee on Commerce and Economic Development
Statehouse, Room 151-S
Topeka, Kansas  66612

Dear Representative Brown:

SUBJECT: Fiscal Note for HB 2092 by House Committee on Transportation

In accordance with KSA 75-3715a, the following fiscal note concerning HB 2092 is respectfully submitted to your committee.

HB 2092 would change current law regarding unemployment insurance (UI). The bill would expand the availability of UI benefits to bus drivers directly employed by school districts. Current UI benefits are available only to bus drivers employed by private contractors.

If enacted, HB 2092 would increase the number of benefit payments from the UI Trust Fund for unemployed bus drivers. The Department of Labor states that it does not have an estimated number of unemployed bus drivers who would be directly employed by school districts each year. However, if all private contract bus drivers were to become unemployed, the Department estimates that benefit payments of up to $14.0 million may be paid over the benefit period for these individuals. Any fiscal effect associated with HB 2092 is not reflected in The FY 2012 Governor’s Budget Report.

Sincerely,

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

cc:  Bill Schafer, Department of Labor