February 28, 2011

The Honorable Steve Brunk, Chairperson
House Committee on Federal and State Affairs
Statehouse, Room 149-S
Topeka, Kansas 66612

Dear Representative Brunk:

SUBJECT: Fiscal Note for HB 2353 by House Committee on Federal and State Affairs

In accordance with KSA 75-3715a, the following fiscal note concerning HB 2353 is respectfully submitted to your committee.

HB 2353 would amend the Personal and Family Protection Act. Individuals who are licensed to carry concealed weapons would be allowed to carry a handgun while in a state or municipal facility unless the facility has adequate security measures, as defined in the bill, to prevent weapons on the premises. The same would apply to state and municipal employees and their work places. These security measures include staff and electronic equipment to detect and restrict the carrying of weapons. It would not be a crime for a person to carry a concealed handgun if the person is licensed and has the authority to enter through the restricted entrance. The bill would not prohibit a state agency or municipality from having policies restricting a handgun on the premises where security measures are used and signs are properly posted prohibiting concealed carry. The bill would also not limit a correctional facility, jail, or law enforcement agency from prohibiting the carrying of a concealed weapon by any person on the premises.

According to the League of Kansas Municipalities, passage of HB 2353 could cost between $1.5 million to $3.0 million statewide. This estimate is based on an average walk-through electronic scanner costing between $2,500 to $5,000, plus freight and installation, and if 627 cities chose to purchase just one unit. It is not known if all 627 cities would choose this option, install more than one device, chose a hand-held wand detector, already have either or both of these devices, or chose not to use detectors to control concealed carry in facilities. In addition, there would be ongoing annual expenditures to staff the detectors and for maintenance of the equipment.
The Attorney General states that any fiscal effect associated with the passage of HB 2353 would be negligible and could be absorbed within the agency’s existing budget.

Sincerely,

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

cc: Megan Pinegar, Attorney General’s Office
    Larry Baer, League of Municipalities