February 15, 2012

The Honorable Larry Powell, Chairperson
House Committee on Agriculture and Natural Resources
Statehouse, Room 149-S
Topeka, Kansas 66612

Dear Representative Powell:

SUBJECT: Fiscal Note for HB 2730 by House Committee on Agriculture and Natural Resources

In accordance with KSA 75-3715a, the following fiscal note concerning HB 2730 is respectfully submitted to your committee.

HB 2730 would amend current law regarding food and lodging inspections and licensing through the Kansas Department of Agriculture. The bill would include all definitions related to food and lodging inspections and language related to fines and penalties. Currently, the definitions and regulatory language are included in many different statutes. The bill would also repeal archaic and redundant language.

HB 2730 would set the cap on civil penalties at $1,000 per violation, change the license renewal date from January 1 to April 1, and clarify the businesses that are exempt from licensing and inspection. The bill would set fee caps for food establishment licenses between $250 and $750, depending on size, and increase the late fee for renewing a license from $10 to $25. The bill would allow the Department of Agriculture to set fees in regulation to recoup inspection costs of performing two inspections per year at all facilities that have school lunch programs and are required to have inspections in order to comply with the federal Natural School Lunch Act.

Many of the changes in HB 2730 are technical in nature, therefore, the Department of Agriculture considers the bill to be revenue neutral and not require additional expenditures for FY 2013.

Sincerely,

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

cc: Mark Heim, Agriculture
    Melissa Wangemann, KAC
    Larry Baer, LKM