January 25, 2011

The Honorable Jean Schodorf, Chairperson
Senate Committee on Education
Statehouse, Room 236-E
Topeka, Kansas  66612

Dear Senator Schodorf:

SUBJECT: Fiscal Note for SB 18 by Special Committee on Education

In accordance with KSA 75-3715a, the following fiscal note concerning SB 18 is respectfully submitted to your committee.

SB 18 would amend current law regarding the use of at-risk funds in the school finance formula. The bill would limit school districts to use funding derived from the at-risk weighting formula only for salaries associated with teachers who teach in at-risk, bilingual, or career and technical education programs, all-day kindergarten classes, or who were added by the district on or after July 1, 2005, in an effort to reduce classroom size.

According to the Kansas Department of Education, enactment of SB 18 would have no effect on the amount of state aid to schools. However, the Department notes that school districts are currently spending at-risk funds on teacher salaries that are not outlined in this bill. If SB 18 were enacted, school districts would have to alter their operating budget, or reduce expenditures accordingly. Any fiscal effect associated with SB 18 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