

January 27, 2014

The Honorable Lance Kinzer, Chairperson  
House Committee on Judiciary  
Statehouse, Room 165-W  
Topeka, Kansas 66612

Dear Representative Kinzer:

SUBJECT: Fiscal Note for HB 2448 by House Committee on Judiciary

In accordance with KSA 75-3715a, the following fiscal note concerning HB 2448 is respectfully submitted to your committee.

HB 2448 would expand the crime of interference with judicial process by making it unlawful to knowingly provide personal information about judges or their immediate family members if the dissemination of the information poses an imminent and serious threat to their safety or the safety of their immediate family members and the person making the information available knows or reasonably should know of the threat. A first offense would be a Class A person misdemeanor; however, second or subsequent convictions would be severity level nine, person felonies.

According to the Kansas Sentencing Commission, HB 2448 may have an effect on prison admissions, prison bed space, the probation population, and the workload of the Commission; however, the precise effect is unknown because there are no existing data on the new offense from which specific estimates can be calculated. The agency reports that of the two offenders convicted under the current law in FY 2013, one offender was sentenced to probation and the other was sentenced to prison.

The Office of Judicial Administration indicates that the bill has the potential to increase the number of cases relating to interference with judicial process filed in district courts and the number of appeals filed in appellate courts. This would increase the time spent by district and appellate court judicial and non-judicial personnel to process, research, and hear cases. Likewise, the additional cases could also result in the collection of added revenue from docket fees. However, it is not possible to predict the number of additional court cases or appeals that would arise or how complex and time-consuming they would be. Therefore, a precise fiscal effect cannot be determined.

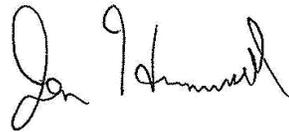
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The Board of Indigents Defense Services does not anticipate that passage of the bill would create additional cases for the agency. In the event the bill does add to the Board's caseload, there would be additional costs to provide legal defense services. However, the precise amount is not known. Any fiscal effect associated with HB 2448 is not reflected in *The FY 2015 Governor's Budget Report*.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jon Hummell". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Jon Hummell,  
Interim Director of the Budget

cc: Scott Schultz, Sentencing Commission  
Mary Rinehart, Judiciary  
Jeremy Barclay, Corrections  
Pat Scalia, Indigents Defense Services