

February 14, 2017

The Honorable Blaine Finch, Chairperson  
House Committee on Judiciary  
Statehouse, Room 519-N  
Topeka, Kansas 66612

Dear Representative Finch:

**SUBJECT:** Fiscal Note for HB 2302 by House Committee on Judiciary

In accordance with KSA 75-3715a, the following fiscal note concerning HB 2302 is respectfully submitted to your committee.

Under current law, boards of county commissioners establish rules and procedures for animal shelters to follow when making animals seized as a result of animal cruelty allegations available for adoption and when euthanizing those animals. Current law also gives courts flexibility in deciding whether or not a person found guilty of animal cruelty may regain custody of the animal. Further, current law gives boards of county commissioners the authority to establish rules and procedures for animal shelters to follow when making dogs seized as a result of dog fighting allegations available for adoption and when euthanizing those dogs.

HB 2302 would remove boards of county commissioners from these processes and allow law enforcement agencies, district attorneys, county prosecutors, veterinarians or animal shelters to petition district courts to allow those animals to be adopted or euthanized. Under current law, only animal shelters may petition the court. HB 2302 would also prevent any individual found guilty of animal cruelty from regaining custody of the animal. The bill also makes other technical changes.

The Kansas Association of Counties and the Office of Judicial Administration indicate any fiscal effect from the enactment of the bill would be negligible.

Sincerely,



Shawn Sullivan,  
Director of the Budget

cc: Ashley Michaelis, Judiciary  
Melissa Wangemann, Association of Counties