

February 28, 2017

The Honorable Vicki Schmidt, Chairperson
Senate Committee on Public Health and Welfare
Statehouse, Room 441-E
Topeka, Kansas 66612

Dear Senator Schmidt:

SUBJECT: Fiscal Note for SB 172 by Senate Committee on Ways and Means

In accordance with KSA 75-3715a, the following fiscal note concerning SB 172 is respectfully submitted to your committee.

SB 172 defines conversion therapy as any practice or treatment that seeks to change an individual's sexual orientation or gender identity, including efforts to change behaviors or gender expressions or to eliminate or reduce sexual or romantic attractions or feelings toward individuals of the same gender. The bill would prohibit any physician licensed by the Board of Healing Arts or any licensee of the Behavioral Sciences Regulatory Board from practicing conversion therapy with any individual under 18 years of age. Such practice would constitute unprofessional conduct subjecting the licensee to disciplinary action.

The bill clarifies that conversion therapy would not include counseling that provides assistance to an individual undergoing gender transition; provides acceptance, support and understanding to an individual; or facilitates an individual's coping, social support and identity exploration and development, including sexual orientation-neutral interventions to prevent or address unlawful conduct or unsafe sexual practices, so long as such counseling does not seek to change the individual's sexual orientation or gender identity.

The Board of Healing Arts indicates the enactment of SB 172 could increase expenditures and staffing needs related additional investigations and disciplinary cases, but a fiscal effect cannot be estimated. The Behavioral Sciences Regulatory Board indicates the bill would have no fiscal effect. Any fiscal effect associated with SB 35 is not reflected in *The FY 2018 Governor's Budget Report*.

Sincerely,



Shawn Sullivan,
Director of the Budget

cc: Max Foster, Behavioral Sciences