February 21, 2018

The Honorable Bud Estes, Chairperson
Senate Committee on Federal and State Affairs
Statehouse, Room 136-E
Topeka, Kansas  66612

Dear Senator Estes:

SUBJECT: Fiscal Note for SB 401 by Senate Committee on Federal and State Affairs

In accordance with KSA 75-3715a, the following fiscal note concerning SB 401 is respectfully submitted to your committee.

SB 401 would enact the Adoption Protection Act. The bill would exempt child placement agencies (CPAs) from being involved with any placement of a child if the placement would violate the CPAs’ sincerely held religious beliefs. CPAs could not be denied a license, permit, authorization or renewal for the agencies’ refusal to place children based on sincerely held religious beliefs. CPAs could not be denied grants, contracts or be subject to fines or administrative actions or claims as a result of refusal based on sincerely held religious beliefs. CPAs would be required to describe their sincerely held religious beliefs in certain documents, as approved by the CPAs governing body, to qualify for such placement refusal.

The Department for Children and Families indicates enactment of SB 401 could have a fiscal effect on agency operations. However, the number of CPAs that would deny placement based on sincerely held religious beliefs cannot be estimated by the agency, making it impossible to estimate the bill’s fiscal effect on agency operations. Any fiscal effect associated with SB 401 is not reflected in The FY 2019 Governor’s Budget Report.

Sincerely,

Larry L. Campbell
Chief Budget Officer

cc: Jackie Aubert, Children & Families