

February 16, 2011

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

Dear Senator Schodorf:

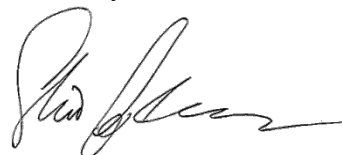
SUBJECT: Fiscal Note for SB 144 by Senate Committee on Education

In accordance with KSA 75-3715a, the following fiscal note concerning SB 144 is respectfully submitted to your committee.

SB 144 would provide that any student who is subjected to hazardous walking conditions, as established by the Kansas Board of Education rules and regulations, while en route to or from school, to be provided transportation by school districts. Under current law, school districts are required to provide transportation only to students living over 2.5 miles from school. It is upon that basis that state aid is calculated.

According to the Kansas Department of Education, there are approximately 66,300 students who live less than 2.5 miles from school who are being provided transportation by school districts. The Department states that it is likely a very high percentage of these students are being transported because of hazardous walking or driving conditions. It is likely that the number of students affected by SB 144 would be at least the number of students currently being transported who live less than 2.5 miles from school. Using the cost estimate of \$360 per year per pupil, enactment of SB 144 would increase transportation aid to school districts in FY 2012 by approximately \$23,868,000 ($\$360 \times 66,300$ students), all from the State General Fund. Any fiscal effect associated with SB 144 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