

February 11, 2011

The Honorable Vicki Schmidt, Chairperson
Senate Committee on Public Health and Welfare
Statehouse, Room 552-S
Topeka, Kansas 66612

Dear Senator Schmidt:

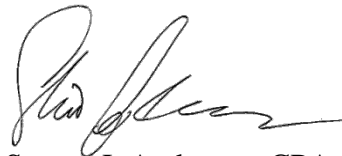
SUBJECT: Fiscal Note for SB 88 by Senate Committee on Public Health and Welfare

In accordance with KSA 75-3715a, the following fiscal note concerning SB 88 is respectfully submitted to your committee.

SB 88 would allow naturopathic doctors to prescribe, recommend, or administer certain drugs or substances controlled by prescription. In addition, the bill would allow naturopathic doctors to administer immunizations and intramuscular, subcutaneous or intravenous vitamins, minerals, and homeopathic preparations. Finally, SB 88 would eliminate both the requirement for a written protocol between the naturopathic doctor and a person licensed to practice medicine and surgery and the requirement to provide notice of this relationship to the Board of Healing Arts.

The Board of Healing Arts is concerned that the expanse in scope, decrease in supervision, and lack of evidence for enhanced education and training will decrease patient safety and increase the number of investigations that would need to be performed by Board staff. Any increase in the number of investigations and disciplinary cases assigned to Board staff would increase the agency's operating expenses proportionally. However, because the potential increase in workload cannot be predicted, a precise fiscal effect cannot be determined. Any fiscal effect associated with SB 88 is not reflected in *The FY 2012 Governor's Budget Report*.

Sincerely,



Steven J. Anderson, CPA, MBA
Director of the Budget

cc: Cathy Brown, Healing Arts