

February 1, 2013

The Honorable Lance Kinzer, Chairperson
House Committee on Judiciary
Statehouse, Room 165-W
Topeka, Kansas 66612

Dear Representative Kinzer:

SUBJECT: Fiscal Note for HB 2040 by Representative Ward

In accordance with KSA 75-3715a, the following fiscal note concerning HB 2040 is respectfully submitted to your committee.

Current law requires the Chief Justice of the Kansas Supreme Court to annually submit a written report to the Governor and to the Judiciary Committees of both houses of the Legislature. The law also requires the Governor to communicate an evaluation of the condition of the state to every session of the Legislature. HB 2040 would amend this law to create the Open Communications Act. The Act would require that, at the beginning of each regular session of the Legislature, the Chief Justice of the Kansas Supreme Court would have the responsibility for delivering an oral State of the Judiciary address. The address would evaluate affairs concerning the state of the judiciary, including accessibility of the courts to the citizens of Kansas, future needs of the courts of the state and any recommendation for addressing such issues. The bill would also place into statute the requirement that the Governor deliver an oral State of the State address to every session of the Legislature.

Passage of HB 2040 would have no fiscal effect on the state budget.

Sincerely,



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

cc: Mary Rinehart, Judiciary