

January 28, 2013

The Honorable Marvin KleeB, Chairperson
House Committee on Commerce, Labor and Economic Development
Statehouse, Room 286-N
Topeka, Kansas 66612

Dear Representative KleeB:

SUBJECT: Fiscal Note for HB 2083 by House Committee on Commerce, Labor and Economic Development


In accordance with KSA 75-3715a, the following fiscal note concerning HB 2083 is respectfully submitted to your committee.

HB 2083 concerns the Public Employee Relations Board (PERB) and the Public Employer Employee Relations Act (PEERA). The Public Employee Relations Board is a five-member board appointed by the Governor. The Board's administrative functions are managed within the Department of Labor. Under current law, when a public employer and a public employee organization reach an impasse in negotiations, PERB has the authority to appoint independent mediators or fact-finders. HB 2083 would amend PEERA so the parties, not the state, pay the costs of these services.

HB 2083 also amends PEERA so that the party seeking a secret ballot election on issues of the appropriateness or recognition of an employee organization pays the reasonable costs incurred by the state in conducting the election.

According to the Department of Labor, approximately \$11,000 has been spent in the past three years on mediation and fact-finding services. The secret ballot elections affected by the bill are relatively rare events, occurring two or three times per year. Costs associated with the elections include postage and copying costs. The Department would save some negligible amount from these costs shifting to those parties accessing the agency's services. Any fiscal effect associated with HB 2083 is not reflected in *The FY 2014 Governor's Budget Report*.

Sincerely,



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

cc: Dawn Palmberg, Labor