

March 22, 2007

The Honorable Brenda Landwehr, Chairperson
House Committee on Health and Human Services
Statehouse, Room 115-S
Topeka, Kansas 66612

Dear Representative Landwehr:

SUBJECT: Fiscal Note for HB 2472 by Representative Garcia

In accordance with KSA 75-3715a, the following fiscal note concerning HB 2472 is respectfully submitted to your committee.

HB 2472 would require the Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE) to establish a database of available volunteers who are proficient in both English and a foreign language or sign language to serve as interpreters. The volunteer interpreters would assist patients, who are not proficient in English or can only communicate using sign language, that receive services from adult care homes, hospitals, local health departments, community health centers, and other programs or facilities that provide medical or mental health care. The Secretary of KDHE would appoint an advisory committee to assist with establishing the database, with one member being the executive director of the Commission for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing.

KDHE could incur additional costs in the form of staff time from creating a database of interpreters; however, a precise fiscal effect cannot be estimated because it is unknown how many interpreters would volunteer. Any fiscal effect from the enactment of HB 2472 is not included in *The FY 2008 Governor's Budget Report*.

Sincerely,



Duane A. Goossen
Director of the Budget

cc: Aaron Dunkel, KDHE
Jeanette Magathan, School for the Deaf