

February 23, 2023

The Honorable Rick Billinger, Chairperson
Senate Committee on Ways and Means
300 SW 10th Avenue, Room 548-S
Topeka, Kansas 66612

Dear Senator Billinger:

SUBJECT: Fiscal Note for SB 151 by Senate Committee on Ways and Means

In accordance with KSA 75-3715a, the following fiscal note concerning SB 151 is respectfully submitted to your committee.

SB 151 would amend the Employee Award and Recognition Program. The bill would remove the current limitation that bonuses must be discretionary as defined by rules of the Internal Revenue Service and to specifically allow for hiring, recruitment, and retention bonuses in addition to the current categories of bonuses allowed by statute. The bill would increase the maximum total gross value of awards that an employee could receive in a single fiscal year from \$3,500 to \$10,000. SB 151 would specify that any monetary award or series of awards in excess of \$3,500 that is proposed for an employee in the classified service or an employee in the unclassified service whose salary is subject to approval in accordance with KSA 75-2935b, would be subject to approval by the Governor and would not be paid until approved by the Governor.

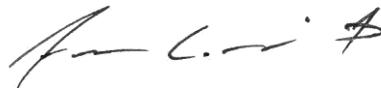
Under current law, the Secretary of Administration is required to adopt rules and regulations that provide oversight and administrative review of state agency award and reorganization programs. SB 151 would no longer allow the Secretary to adopt rules and regulations; however, the bill would require the Secretary to provide oversight and administrative review of award and recognition programs for Executive Branch state agencies and appointed state councils and commissions.

The bill would require that annually, on August 1, each state agency that has awarded an employee with a monetary award would be required to submit a report to the Secretary on the number of monetary awards paid in each category of awards or bonuses and the total dollar amount of each award or bonus for the previous fiscal year. The Secretary would be required to submit

the information to the House Committee on Appropriations and the Senate Committee on Way and Means.

The Department of Administration states the bill would allow state agencies to provide bonuses in higher amounts and because of this, the Department estimates that the bill's enactment would result in more bonuses being provided and more funds being expended to pay for the bonuses. For FY 2024, the Department estimates state agencies would have to manage any additional bonuses within existing budget resources. According to the Department, some agencies may seek additional funding for bonuses in future fiscal years, especially if the agency has established a program providing hiring, recruitment, or retention bonuses. Any fiscal effect associated with SB 151 is not reflected in *The FY 2024 Governor's Budget Report*.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Adam Proffitt", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Adam Proffitt
Director of the Budget

cc: Tamara Emery, Department of Administration