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Laura Kelly, Governor

February 19, 2025

The Honorable Sean Tarwater, Chairperson House Committee on Commerce, Labor and Economic Development 300 SW 10th Avenue, Room 346-S Topeka, Kansas 66612

Dear Representative Tarwater:

SUBJECT: Fiscal Note for HB 2344 by House Committee on Commerce, Labor and

**Economic Development** 

In accordance with KSA 75-3715a, the following fiscal note concerning HB 2344 is respectfully submitted to your committee.

HB 2344 would establish the Kansas-Ireland Trade Commission. The 13-member Commission would promote, advance, and encourage business and other mutually beneficial activities between Kansas and Ireland. The Commission would report on its activities to the Governor and the Legislature within one year of the Commission's initial meeting. The staff of the Office of Revisor of Statutes, the Legislative Research Department, and the Division of Legislative Administrative Services would provide assistance as requested by the Commission's chairperson.

The bill would also create the Kansas-Ireland Trade Commission Fund to be administered by the Chairperson of the Commission. The Chairperson would be authorized to request the Secretary of Commerce to administer the fund. The Commission would be authorized to raise funds to carry out its purposes, and such funds would be deposited into the Kansas-Ireland Trade Commission Fund. Each month the Director of Accounts and Reports in the Department of Administration would transfer from the State General Fund to the Kansas-Ireland Trade Commission Fund, the average daily balance of moneys in the Commission's fund and the net earnings rate for the pooled money investment portfolio for the preceding month.

The Department of Commerce estimates enactment would increase its expenditures by \$10,400 for reimbursement of members of the commission. The Department assumes that under HB 2344, it would reimburse the thirteen members for four meetings at a cost of \$200 per meeting

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(13 x 4 x \$200). In addition, the Department indicates that it would be able to manage the Kansas-Ireland Trade Commission Fund, if requested by the Commission's chairperson within existing resources.

The Kansas Board of Regents indicates enactment of HB 2344 would not have a fiscal effect on its operations. However, the bill could have a fiscal effect on public post-secondary educational institutions if the bill led to additional students coming from Ireland to attend Kansas educational institutions.

The legislative agencies indicate that any fiscal effect of HB 2344 would be handled within its existing resources. Any fiscal effect associated with HB 2344 is not reflected in *The FY 2026 Governor's Budget Report*.

The Kansas Association of Counties and the League of Kansas Municipalities state HB 2344 would not have a fiscal effect on cities or counties.

Adam C. Proffitt
Director of the Budget

cc: Sherry Rentfro, Department of Commerce Jay Hall, Kansas Association of Counties Gabrielle Hull, Department of Education Becky Pottebaum, Board of Regents Wendi Stark, League of Kansas Municipalities