



January 29, 2026

The Honorable Susan Humphries, Chairperson  
House Committee on Judiciary  
300 SW 10th Avenue, Room 582-N  
Topeka, Kansas 66612

Dear Representative Humphries:

SUBJECT: Fiscal Note for HB 2529 by House Committee on Judiciary

In accordance with KSA 75-3715a, the following fiscal note concerning HB 2529 is respectfully submitted to your committee.

HB 2529 would require any person or organization that intends to circulate a citizen petition for a grand jury to file a copy with the clerk of the district court prior to obtaining any signatures. Within five days of filing, excluding weekends and holidays, a judge of the district court would be required to enter an order stating whether the petition meets certain requirements. If a judge finds the petition deficient, the judge's order must explain the deficiencies and allow the person or organization to file an amended petition within five days. If a judge finds the amended petition to be deficient, the judge would be required to quash the petition. If a judge finds the amended petition meets all requirements, the petition would be allowed to be circulated for signatures.

The bill would also create a class C nonperson misdemeanor for knowingly making a false statement or offering any benefit as consideration to induce a person to sign or remove a signature from a citizen petition. The bill would establish certain court procedures and standards for citizen grand juries, including that the initiating person must be the first witness called by the grand jury and that the grand jury may employ special counsel and investigators by a majority vote. The bill would allow appeals of quashed citizen petitions and certain grand jury proceedings.

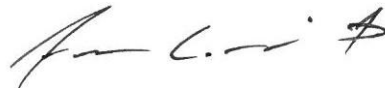
Within ten days after a citizen petition is filed, the initiating person would be required to submit the names of three attorneys licensed in Kansas. If the grand jury is impaneled, the court would be required to select one of the attorneys who would be allowed to make certain legal challenges. The bill would also set requirements for attendance and testimony of the prosecuting

attorney at grand jury proceedings. The bill would allow the grand jury to request that the Attorney General prosecute the case under certain circumstances and would prohibit the Attorney General from entering into diversion agreements related to indictments found by citizen grand juries.

The Office of Judicial Administration indicates enactment of the bill could increase the number of cases filed in district courts because it creates a new misdemeanor crime of knowingly making a false statement, offering a benefit for signing a petition, or removing a name from a petition. The bill would also modify the procedures regarding citizen grand juries. This would increase the time spent by district court judicial and nonjudicial personnel in processing, researching, and hearing cases. Since the crime would carry a class C nonperson misdemeanor penalty, enactment of the bill could also result in more supervision of offenders required by court services officers. In addition, the bill could result in the collection of supervision fees, docket fees, and fines, most of which would be deposited into the State General Fund. However, a fiscal effect cannot be estimated.

The Office of the Attorney General indicates enactment of the bill would not have a fiscal effect on the agency. The bill would allow the agency to accept or decline referrals for prosecution, which is consistent with authority already provided under existing law. The Office notes that the bill could increase the risk of litigation, but a fiscal effect associated with potential litigation cannot be estimated. Any fiscal effect associated with HB 2529 is not reflected in *The FY 2027 Governor's Budget Report*.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Adam C. Proffitt", followed by a stylized flourish or symbol.

Adam C. Proffitt  
Director of the Budget

cc: Trisha Morrow, Judiciary  
Matt Bingesser, Office of the Attorney General