

February 4, 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 2537 by House Committee on Judiciary**

In accordance with KSA 75-3715a, the following fiscal note concerning HB 2537 is respectfully submitted to your committee.

HB 2537 would require the Attorney General to prepare and provide educational materials and information about sexual extortion. The Attorney General, State Board of Education, and law enforcement agencies would collaborate to educate and notify schools, students, parents, and the public about the availability of information and educational materials. The Attorney General would be required to file an annual report starting July 1, 2027, to the Governor, Legislative leadership, and the State Board of Education regarding the implementation of educational materials and information about sexual extortion.

Currently, sexual extortion is communicating, by any method, a threat to injure, commit violence, or distribute media of a sexual nature or nudity. The bill would expand the definition to include communicating a demand for anything of value. The bill would add a second definition of communicating, by any method, a threat to distribute media of a sexual nature or depicts a person nude with the intent to coerce or cause a person to engage in sex, produce or provide media of a sexual nature or nudity, or provide anything of value. The intent to coerce a person would be a severity level 7, person felony, unless the offender is 18 years of age or older and the victim is less than 18 years of age or a dependent adult, then the penalty would be a severity level 6, person felony. The intent to cause a person to engage in such acts would be a severity level 4, person felony, unless the offender is 18 years of age or older and the victim is less than 18 years of age or a dependent adult, then the penalty would be a severity level 3, person felony.

Under the bill, aggravated sexual extortion causing great bodily harm and aggravated sexual extortion causing death would be sexual extortion. Aggravated sexual extortion causing bodily harm would be a severity level 3, person felony. Aggravated sexual extortion causing death would be a severity level 1, person felony.

Estimated State Fiscal Effect			
	FY 2026	FY 2027	FY 2028
Expenditures			
State General Fund	--	\$213,887	\$221,799
Fee Fund(s)	--	--	--
Federal Fund	--	--	--
Total Expenditures	--	\$213,887	\$221,799
Revenues			
State General Fund	--	--	--
Fee Fund(s)	--	--	--
Federal Fund	--	--	--
Total Revenues	--	--	--
FTE Positions	--	--	--

The Office of Judicial Administration states that the enactment of the bill could increase the number of cases filed in district courts because it would expand sexual extortion crimes, which would increase the time spent by district court judicial and nonjudicial personnel in processing, researching, and hearing cases. Because the bill increases criminal penalties there could be less supervision of offenders performed by court services officers, which could decrease supervision fee revenues in its Correctional Supervision Fund and also decrease certain fees that would be deposited into the State General Fund.

The Sentencing Commission estimates that enactment of HB 2537 would not change the adult prison beds needed by the end of FY 2027. By the end of FY 2036, two to four additional beds would be needed. The current estimated available bed capacity is 9,924 for males and 968 for females. Based upon the Commission's most recent ten-year projection contained in its *FY 2026 Adult Inmate Prison Population Projections* report, it is estimated that the year-end population will total 9,176 male and 924 female inmates in FY 2026 and 9,485 male and 953 female inmates in FY 2027. Based on the Commission's estimates, the Department of Corrections states the bill would not increase expenditures in FY 2027 but would increase expenditures by \$1,496 from the State General Fund in FY 2028.

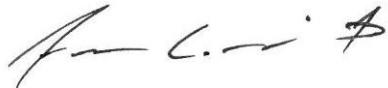
The Office of the Attorney General states that to carry out the requirements of the bill it would need 2.00 positions at a cost of \$213,887 from the State General Fund in FY 2027. Of that amount, \$133,905 would be for 1.00 Assistant Attorney General, \$62,366 would be for 1.00 Program Consultant, and \$17,616 would be for office space, training, and other related

expenditures. The Office estimates expenditures of \$220,303 in FY 2028, which is an increase of 3.0 percent above the FY 2027 amount.

The Department of Education, Kansas Bureau of Investigation, and Kansas Highway Patrol all state that the bill would not have a fiscal effect. Any fiscal effect associated with HB 2537 is not reflected in *The FY 2027 Governor's Budget Report*.

The Kansas Association of Counties states that enactment of the bill would have a fiscal effect on counties. The Association indicates that counties would have to create and implement new criminal procedures, such as training, filing new charges, and distribution of the materials created by the Attorney General. However, the Association cannot estimate a fiscal effect. The League of Kansas Municipalities states that the bill would not have a fiscal effect on cities.

Sincerely,



Adam C. Proffitt  
Director of the Budget

cc: Matt Bingesser, Office of the Attorney General  
Gabrielle Hull, Department of Education  
Sherry Macke, Kansas Highway Patrol  
Paul Weisgerber, Kansas Bureau of Investigation  
Wendi Stark, League of Kansas Municipalities  
Jay Hall, Kansas Association of Counties  
Trisha Morrow, Judiciary  
Jennifer King, Department of Corrections  
Scott Schultz, Kansas Sentencing Commission