

February 9, 2026

The Honorable Ken Rahjes, Chairperson
House Committee on Agriculture and Natural Resources
300 SW 10th Avenue, Room 112-N
Topeka, Kansas 66612

Dear Representative Rahjes:

SUBJECT: Fiscal Note for HB 2582 by House Committee on Agriculture and Natural Resources

In accordance with KSA 75-3715a, the following fiscal note concerning HB 2582 is respectfully submitted to your committee.

HB 2582 would create the Developing Veterinary Medicine in Rural Kansas Act to provide encouragement, opportunities, and incentives for licensed veterinarians to practice veterinary medicine serving food animal patients in rural Kansas communities and to enhance the long-term retention of rural Kansas veterinarians. The bill would establish the Developing Veterinary Medicine in Rural Kansas Advisory Committee, which would comprise seven members appointed by the Secretary of Agriculture. The Committee would administer the program in coordination with the Kansas Department of Agriculture and would be authorized to adopt rules and regulations to administer the program.

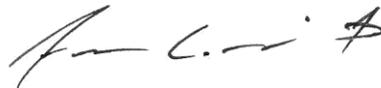
The bill would allow awards of up to \$100,000 per individual, or the total participant education debt balance, whichever is less, to be disbursed in installments over a four-year period of continuous veterinary practice in a rural community. The bill would require a minimum of \$25,000 of education debt at the time of application and would include other eligibility standards. The bill's provisions would address breach of contract, timeliness for repayment, and interest calculation for each program agreement.

The bill would establish the Developing Veterinary Medicine in Rural Kansas Program Fund within the Kansas Department of Agriculture for administering the program. The bill would require the Kansas Department of Agriculture to provide a report to the Legislature on or before February 15th of each year regarding the program. The bill would permit the Secretary to contract

with one statewide nonprofit veterinary medical association to provide administrative support to the Committee and to issue awards from the new fund. The Secretary would also be permitted to assess an administrative fine against the nonprofit organization for not fulfilling requirements of the program or for the intentional or reckless misuse of funds awarded. Any fines assessed would be deposited into the State General Fund.

The Kansas Board of Veterinary Examiners indicates that the enactment of the bill would have negligible effect on the agency's expenditures which could be absorbed within current resources. The Kansas Department of Agriculture indicates that the enactment of the bill would not have a fiscal effect on its operations. The Division of the Budget notes that the bill would create the Developing Veterinary Medicine in Rural Kansas Program Fund within the Kansas Department of Agriculture to be used for awards and administration of the program, but it does not provide for the initial capitalization of the fund or any source of regular revenue to the fund. Any necessary funding would need to be identified in subsequent legislation. Any fiscal effect associated with HB 2582 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: Mark Olson, Board of Veterinary Examiners
Lita Biggs, Department of Agriculture