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Laura Kelly, Governor

February 26, 2025

The Honorable Caryn Tyson, Chairperson Senate Committee on Assessment and Taxation 300 SW 10th Avenue, Room 548-S Topeka, Kansas 66612

Dear Senator Tyson:

SUBJECT: Fiscal Note for SB 108 by Senator Haley

In accordance with KSA 75-3715a, the following fiscal note concerning SB 108 is respectfully submitted to your committee.

SB 108 would allow a county commission to submit to voters the question of imposing an earnings tax of up to 1.0 percent on individuals living or working within the county. The revenue would be used for general county purposes. A petition signed by at least 10.0 percent of voters in the county would be required to ask for an election to repeal the earnings tax or change the earnings tax rate. Voters would be required to vote on extending the earnings tax every five years. The bill includes definitions for "earnings tax" and "salaries, wages, commissions, and other compensation."

Any person that is exempt from the payment of state income tax would also be exempt from the payment of the county earnings tax. The bill would allow taxpayers to credit the amount of the earnings tax paid to another county against the earnings tax of the county in which the taxpayer's residence is located. The county would be allowed to provide for deductions and exemptions from salaries, wages, and commissions and could provide exemptions for spouses and dependents. The county would be allowed to create a formula for the calculation of the earnings tax for nonresident individuals that have earnings for work performed within the county and for work performed outside the county.

The county could require employers to collect and remit the earnings tax to the county. The employer would be allowed to deduct and retain 1.5 percent of the total amount of earnings tax collected as a fee to compensate the employer for collecting this tax; however, the county would be allowed to reduce, eliminate, or reimpose this fee by resolution. The State of Kansas, as

an employer in any county, would be allowed to deduct 3.0 percent of the total amount of earnings tax collected if the county earnings tax is less than 1.0 percent, and would be allowed to deduct 1.5 percent of the total amount of earnings tax collected if the county earnings tax is 1.0 percent. The county would be allowed to request that employers submit a list of all employees residing within the county on a yearly basis. The list of employees would be treated as a confidential record and not open to public inspection. This confidentiality provision would expire on July 1, 2030, unless renewed by the Legislature.

The Department of Revenue indicates that SB 108 would have no fiscal effect on state tax revenues. The Kansas Association of Counties indicates the bill would allow local governments to raise revenue for general county purposes through an earnings tax if approved by the voters in that county. A precise estimate of the effect to county government revenues is unavailable, as it is unknown how many county governments would request an election to impose an earnings tax or what the amount of the earnings tax would be.

Sincerely,

Adam C. Proffitt
Director of the Budget

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cc: Lynn Robinson, Department of Revenue Jay Hall, Kansas Association of Counties Wendi Stark, League of Kansas Municipalities