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Laura Kelly, Governor

February 11, 2025

The Honorable Larry Alley, Chairperson Senate Committee on Commerce 300 SW 10th Avenue, Room 159-S Topeka, Kansas 66612

Dear Senator Alley:

SUBJECT: Fiscal Note for SB 117 by Senate Committee on Commerce

In accordance with KSA 75-3715a, the following fiscal note concerning SB 117 is respectfully submitted to your committee.

Under current law, property owned by the Strother Field Airport Commission is exempt from property taxes as of January 1, 1992. SB 117 would expand the property tax exemption to include the property owned by political subdivisions comprising the Strother Field Airport Commission, and the property tax exemption would be extended to property included in the airport's federally approved airport layout plan whether used for aviation related purposes, to promote aviation commerce, or to provide revenue to operate all Strother Field components and activities.

The Department of Revenue indicates that there are currently two parcels of property in Cowley County with a total assessed valuation of \$2,318,759 that have the potential to be impacted from the expansion of this property tax exemption included in SB 117. The bill would decrease property tax revenues by expanding a current property tax exemption. The state funds directly affected by this bill are the two building funds, the Educational Building Fund (EBF) and the State Institutions Building Fund (SIBF). The Department of Revenue estimates this bill could decrease revenues to these two funds by \$3,478 in FY 2025, with \$2,319 from the EBF and \$1,159 from the SIBF. Less property tax revenue would also affect state expenditures for aid to school districts. To the extent that less property tax revenue would be available from the state's uniform mill levy to fund expenditures for school districts, the state could be required to provide an additional \$46,375 in state aid from the State General Fund through the school finance formula in FY 2025. Local governments that levy a property tax could also receive less revenue; however, the amount of reduced property tax revenues was not estimated. The bill has the potential to reduce future

state and local property taxes if additional buildings are constructed for businesses that would be exempt from the property tax. The fiscal effect to state revenues during subsequent years could be as follows:

	<u>FY 2026</u>	<u>FY 2027</u>
School District Finance	(\$49,158)	(\$52,107)
EBF	(2,458)	(2,605)
SIBF	(1,229)	(1,303)
	(\$52,845)	(\$56,015)

The Department of Revenue indicates the bill would have no fiscal effect on its operations. Any fiscal effect associated with SB 117 is not reflected in *The FY 2026 Governor's Budget Report*.

The Kansas Association of Counties and the League of Kansas Municipalities indicate that the bill has the potential to reduce the amount of local property tax revenues that are used in part to finance local governments. The bill has the potential to shift the tax burden to other property classifications and types.

Sincerely,

Adam C. Proffitt
Director of the Budget

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