

February 2, 2026

The Honorable Kellie Warren, Chairperson
Senate Committee on Judiciary
300 SW 10th Avenue, Room 346-S
Topeka, Kansas 66612

Dear Senator Warren:

SUBJECT: Fiscal Note for SB 307 by Senator Owens

In accordance with KSA 75-3715a, the following fiscal note concerning SB 307 is respectfully submitted to your committee.

SB 307 would establish the Veteran Diversion Program. The bill would require the county or district attorney to propose a diversion agreement to a defendant who is a veteran, has one or more indicators of mental or physical symptoms of a condition from military service that could have contributed to the offense, and is alleged to have committed a misdemeanor or a severity level 7 through 10 felony offense. The bill would require law enforcement and the county or district attorney to verify the veteran status of individuals being charged with committing such offenses to identify eligibility for participation in the program. A veteran who is offered a diversion agreement would be required to participate in evidence-based treatment approved by the county or district attorney and comply with a case plan with certain conditions.

The bill would require the Attorney General to provide training to law enforcement and county and district attorneys designed to increase understanding of cases involving veterans. On July 1, 2027, and each July 1 thereafter, each county and district attorney would be required to report to the Attorney General certain information related to diversions agreements, including the number of such agreements and whether the agreements were successful. The Attorney General would be required to report the data received and any other findings and recommendations to the Legislature on or before January 1 each year. The bill would add an individual's status as a veteran, including individual merit earned during service, to the list of mitigating factors that could be used for a departure from normal sentencing guidelines. The bill would prohibit an individual's status as a veteran from being considered an aggravating factor.

Estimated State Fiscal Effect			
	FY 2026	FY 2027	FY 2028
Expenditures			
State General Fund	--	\$421,788	\$434,441
Fee Fund(s)	--	--	--
Federal Fund	--	--	--
Total Expenditures	--	\$421,788	\$434,441
Revenues			
State General Fund	--	--	--
Fee Fund(s)	--	--	--
Federal Fund	--	--	--
Total Revenues	--	--	--
FTE Positions	--	3.00	3.00

The Office of the Attorney General indicates enactment of the bill would increase expenditures by \$421,788 in FY 2027 and \$434,441 in FY 2028 from the State General Fund to add 3.00 positions. Salaries and wages totaling \$213,831 in FY 2027 for one full-time Assistant Attorney General would be required to provide specialized training for county and district attorneys. Attorneys assigned predominantly to instructional duties would be unable to maintain a concurrent caseload due to scheduling conflicts with criminal court proceedings. As a result, the position could not be shared with other office functions. Salaries and wages expenditures totaling \$120,242 would be required for one full-time special agent to provide specialized training for law enforcement personnel. The Office states that special agents assigned to education-focused workloads would be unable to maintain regular investigative caseloads due to the unpredictable scheduling demands of law enforcement work. This position would also be unable to be split among other duties. Finally, salaries and wages expenditures totaling \$87,715 for one full-time administrative assistant would be required to manage scheduling, intake of training requests, and travel arrangements for the Assistant Attorney General and special agent. The Office states that dedicated administrative support would be necessary to ensure efficient coordination and delivery of training. Projected costs for FY 2028 assume a 3.0 percent inflationary increase.

The Office of Judicial Administration indicates enactment of the bill could increase expenditures for the Judicial Branch, but a precise fiscal effect cannot be estimated. The Office states that bill would increase court services officers' (CSO) workload which could require hiring additional CSOs in areas of Kansas with more veterans. In addition, not every district court has a diversion program or CSO, so CSOs may have to be moved to facilitate supervision. The Office also indicates CSOs would need to perform a risk assessment for criminogenic needs on a specialized population, which would require specialized training. The Office notes that the supervision required in the bill would be more intense than normal supervision provided by CSOs. While it is difficult to determine how much time a CSO would be required to spend on each case,

the Office states that enactment of the bill could significantly increase the workload of CSOs. However, a precise fiscal effect cannot be estimated.

The Kansas Sentencing Commission indicates enactment of the bill will have no effect on prison admissions or bed space. The Commission notes that a large majority of individuals are sentenced to probation at severity level 7 through 10 felonies. The Department of Corrections also indicates enactment of the bill would not have a fiscal effect on corrections. Any fiscal effect associated with SB 307 is not reflected in *The FY 2027 Governor's Budget Report*.

The Kansas Association of Counties indicates enactment of the bill would require county courts to create diversion programs, which could increase costs to the counties to set up such programs. In addition, counties may have increased costs to verify the mental health of veterans and establish mental health services for veterans.

Sincerely,



Adam C. Proffitt
Director of the Budget

cc: Trisha Morrow, Judiciary
Scott Schultz, Kansas Sentencing Commission
Jennifer King, Department of Corrections
Matt Bingesser, Office of the Attorney General
Jay Hall, Kansas Association of Counties