

February 3, 2026

The Honorable Virgil Peck, Chairperson
Senate Committee on Agriculture and Natural Resources
300 SW 10th Avenue, Room 144-S
Topeka, Kansas 66612

Dear Senator Peck:

SUBJECT: Fiscal Note for SB 317 by Senator Thomas

In accordance with KSA 75-3715a, the following fiscal note concerning SB 317 is respectfully submitted to your committee.

SB 317 would establish additional criteria and parameters for Water Technical Assistance Fund and Water Projects Grant Fund grants and establish a scoring matrix for the Kansas Water Office for award consideration. The bill would require publication of the scores of every application after the annual announcement of awards. The bill would require a minimum of a 25-year water supply for a proposed water project, prohibit projects related to water rights, and prioritize consideration of projects that support regional economic growth.

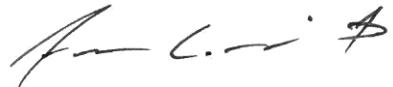
The bill would require a preliminary engineering report and require at least 50.0 percent of the grants to be awarded to municipalities with fewer than 8,000 residents, unless there are not enough applicants. The bill would prioritize partial grants to increase the impact of available funding sources and require a municipality with more than 50,000 residents to demonstrate a threat to public health or a disproportionate burden on a low-income population.

The Department of Agriculture indicates that enactment of the bill would be unlikely to have a fiscal effect on operations; however, additional costs could be absorbed by the agency. The Kansas Water Office and the Kansas Department of Health and Environment indicate the enactment of the bill would not have a fiscal effect on the agencies. Any fiscal effect associated with SB 317 is not reflected in *The FY 2027 Governor's Budget Report*.

The Kansas Association of Counties indicates that the enactment of the bill would not have a direct fiscal effect on counties but could result in increases to revenues and expenditures through

the creation and funding of projects through the Kansas Water Office. The League of Kansas Municipalities indicates that the enactment of the bill would vary from city to city and could increase revenues or expenditures for some cities and decrease revenues or expenditures for other cities; however, a precise fiscal effect cannot be determined.

Sincerely,



Adam C. Proffitt
Director of the Budget

cc: Lita Biggs, Department of Agriculture
Debra Jones, Kansas Water Office
Amy Penrod, Department of Health & Environment
Jay Hall, Kansas Association of Counties
Wendi Stark, League of Kansas Municipalities