

January 22, 2026

The Honorable Mike Petersen, Chairperson  
Senate Committee on Transportation  
300 SW 10th Avenue, Room 546-S  
Topeka, Kansas 66612

Dear Senator Petersen:

**SUBJECT: Fiscal Note for SB 324 by Senate Committee on Transportation**

In accordance with KSA 75-3715a, the following fiscal note concerning SB 324 is respectfully submitted to your committee.

SB 324 would prohibit any person from using a mobile telephone while operating a motor vehicle in a school zone at a time when a reduced speed limit is enforced, and prohibit any person from using a mobile telephone while operating a motor vehicle in a road construction zone while workers are present. These provisions would not apply to a law enforcement officer or emergency service personnel acting within the course and scope of their employment, a person operating a motor vehicle that is halted at a location where the vehicle can safely and lawfully remain stationary, or to a person who is using a mobile telephone that is being used with a hands-free device.

A person would not be considered to be in violation of the above if that person is using a mobile telephone while operating a mobile vehicle to report current or ongoing illegal activity to law enforcement, to prevent imminent injury to a person or property, to call for medical or other emergency assistance, to relay information between a transit or for-hire operator and the operator's dispatcher, or if the device is permanently affixed to the motor vehicle. It would be considered evidence of a violation if a person is seen holding a mobile phone and the mobile phone user is operating the vehicle in a school zone, or a road construction zone, as stated above. "Hands-free device" and "mobile telephone" would also be defined in the bill. A law enforcement officer would issue a warning citation to violators of these provisions, but this would expire and have no effect on and after July 1, 2027. The fine would be listed as \$60.00 on the violation table.

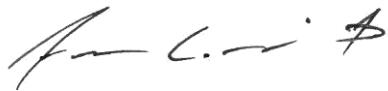
The Kansas Department of Transportation indicates that enactment of SB 324 could increase revenue for the agency. The agency's Traffic Records Enhancement Fund (TREF) receives 2.23 percent of all district court fines, penalties, and forfeitures and the Seat Belt Safety Fund (SBSF) receives 2.2 percent of all district court fines, penalties, and forfeitures. The bill would presumably increase the number of fines collected by adding a new traffic infraction, which would then increase revenues for the TREF and SBSF. The agency is unable to provide a precise estimate of the increased revenues to the TREF and SBSF at this time. However, the agency believes that any increase in revenue for these two funds would most likely be negligible.

The Office of Judicial Administration indicates that SB 324 could increase the number of cases filed in district courts because it creates new traffic violations. This, in turn, would increase the time spent by district court judicial and nonjudicial personnel in processing, researching, and hearing cases. Nevertheless, until the courts have had an opportunity to operate under the provisions of SB 324, an accurate estimate of the fiscal effect on expenditures by the Judicial Branch cannot be given. The bill would not have a fiscal effect on revenues to the Judicial Branch. However, the bill could result in the collection of docket fees and fines assessed in those cases filed under the provisions of the bill, most of which would be deposited in the State General Fund.

The Kansas Highway Patrol and the Kansas Department of Revenue indicate that SB 324 would have no fiscal effect on either agency. Any fiscal effect associated with SB 324 is not reflected in *The FY 2027 Governor's Budget Report*.

The Kansas Association of Counties and the League of Kansas Municipalities indicate that SB 324 could have a fiscal effect on revenues and expenditures if there are more violations received, but they are unable to provide an estimate.

Sincerely,



Adam C. Proffitt  
Director of the Budget

cc: Sherry Macke, Kansas Highway Patrol  
Trisha Morrow, Judiciary  
Jay Hall, Kansas Association of Counties  
Wendi Stark, League of Kansas Municipalities  
Lynn Robinson, Department of Revenue  
Brendan Yorkey, Department of Transportation