

February 16, 2026

The Honorable Renee Erickson, Chairperson  
Senate Committee on Education  
300 SW 10th Avenue, Room 144-S  
Topeka, Kansas 66612

Dear Senator Erickson:

**SUBJECT:** Fiscal Note for SB 440 by Senate Committee on Education

In accordance with KSA 75-3715a, the following fiscal note concerning SB 440 is respectfully submitted to your committee.

SB 440 would authorize the Special Education Teacher Training Pilot Program. The State Board of Education would be required to provisionally accredit a private organization to operate a Program for a period of two years. The private organization would be required to provide high-quality instruction to teacher candidates who hold a bachelor's degree and are seeking licensure as a special education teacher. The private organization could seek full accreditation upon completion of the Program.

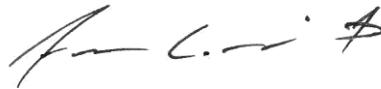
The Department of Education indicates that the enactment of SB 440 would have no fiscal effect on state aid to school districts or on its agency operations. The Department notes that teacher preparation programs can currently be accredited by the State Board of Education if they meet requirements as outlined by the Board.

The Kansas Association of School Boards indicates the enactment of the bill could increase the liability risk for school districts for individuals not employed by the school district, but who are physically in the school and permitted access to students. Also, the Association reports that data allowed to be shared by the provisions of the bill could include student records protected by the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act. To release these records, the school district would have to first obtain approval from a student's parents or guardians. If these records would be

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accessed by a third party without this consent, the district could be exposed to penalties by the U.S. Department of Education. A fiscal effect estimate was not provided by the Association.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Adam C. Proffitt", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Adam C. Proffitt  
Director of the Budget

cc: Gabrielle Hull, Department of Education  
Angie Stallbaumer, Kansas Association of School Boards