

February 19, 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 477 by Senator Corson

In accordance with KSA 75-3715a, the following fiscal note concerning SB 477 is respectfully submitted to your committee.

SB 477 would enact the Kansas First Responder Scholarship Act. The Act would establish the Kansas First Responder Scholarship Program that would be administered by the Board of Regents. The purpose of the Program would be to provide tuition assistance to certain first responders and their dependents. To qualify for an award, a first responder with at least six years of service or the dependent of a first responder with at least 12 years of service would be required to:

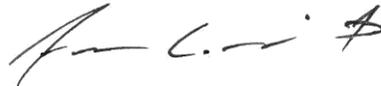
1. Provide proof that the first responder is licensed or certified with the appropriate professional licensing or certifying body and compliant with ongoing training requirements on a form and in a manner determined by the Board of Regents;
2. Meet admission requirements of the postsecondary educational institution where the first responder or dependent would enroll;
3. Have not earned a baccalaureate degree at the time of enrollment;
4. Provide proof that the first responder is employed as a first responder in Kansas and resides in Kansas. Proof would be required to be provided each year that the first responder or dependent applies for and receives tuition award; and
5. First apply for all other federal and state student financial aid before applying for a first responder tuition award, including, but not limited to, filing the federal U.S. Department

of Education's Free Application for Federal Student Aid and submit conformation of the application to the Board of Regents.

The Board of Regents could adopt rules and regulations to implement and administer the Program. Funding for the Program would be subject to appropriations, and an annual aggregate award limit would be set by the Board for each academic year.

The Board of Regents estimates additional State General Fund expenditures would be required resulting from enactment of the bill since a new state-funded scholarship program would be established; however, according to the Board, a precise fiscal effect cannot be estimated because of several factors, including the number of eligible participants who would choose to enroll, tuition and fees, availability of other financial aid, and the annual aggregate award limit that would be set by the Board. Any fiscal effect associated with SB 477 is not reflected in *The FY 2027 Governor's Budget Report*.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Adam C. Proffitt". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "A" and a stylized "P" at the end.

Adam C. Proffitt
Director of the Budget

cc: Becky Pottebaum, Board of Regents