

January 28, 2011

The Honorable Brenda Landwehr, Chairperson
House Committee on Health and Human Services
Statehouse, Room 151-S
Topeka, Kansas 66612

Dear Representative Landwehr:

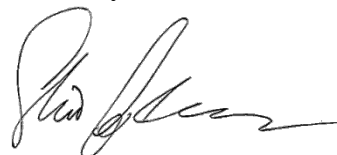
SUBJECT: Fiscal Note for HB 2082 by House Committee on Health and Human Services

In accordance with KSA 75-3715a, the following fiscal note concerning HB 2082 is respectfully submitted to your committee.

HB 2082 would amend current law regarding the required qualifications of persons who install, improve, repair, maintain, or inspect any medical gas piping system with a county or city. Currently, cities and counties that have building codes and have inspectors certified by nationally-recognized code organizations do not have to use a licensed or certified plumber to install, improve, repair, maintain, or inspect any medical gas piping system. The bill would extend that exemption for limited maintenance on any medical gas piping system previously installed in a hospital when performed by hospital maintenance personnel. The bill would also apply to all clinics, long-term care facilities, limited care residential facilities, and joint enterprises for providing health care services that are operated in connection of a medical care facility.

The League of Kansas Municipalities indicates that passage of the bill could reduce expenditures for cities that operate hospitals. Currently, minor repairs must be made by appropriately licensed personnel. Not all hospitals have such a person on staff, and often have to bring someone in from outside the community at a significant expense to make minor repairs.

Sincerely,



Steven J. Anderson, CPA, MBA
Director of the Budget

cc: Pat Kuester, KDHE
Melissa Wangemann, KS Association of Counties
Larry Baer, League of KS Municipalities