

February 4, 2011

The Honorable Tim Owens, Chairperson  
Senate Committee on Judiciary  
Statehouse, Room 559-S  
Topeka, Kansas 66612

Dear Senator Owens:

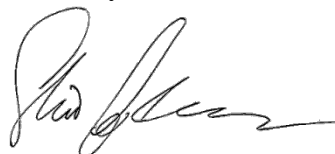
**SUBJECT:** Fiscal Note for SB 52 by Senate Committee on Federal and State Affairs

In accordance with KSA 75-3715a, the following fiscal note concerning SB 52 is respectfully submitted to your committee.

Under current law, a grandparent of a child must notify the court of the grandparent's desire to become an interested party in order to be considered such in a child in need of care proceeding. SB 52 would remove the notification requirement and would automatically consider a child's grandparents as interested parties in a child in need of care proceeding.

Currently, the court is required to notify all grandparents of the first child in need of care hearing and, for subsequent hearings, all grandparents who have expressed an interest. The passage of SB 52 would require the courts to notify all grandparents of all hearings. This could increase the number of mailings by the courts, thereby increasing costs to the courts. However, it is not possible to predict the number of additional mailings for which the courts would be responsible. Therefore, a precise fiscal effect cannot be determined. In any case, the fiscal effect would most likely be accommodated within existing resources. Any fiscal effect associated with SB 52 is not reflected in *The FY 2012 Governor's Budget Report*.

Sincerely,



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

cc: Mary Rinehart, Judiciary  
Dan Lewien, SRS