

February 6, 2020

The Honorable Molly Baumgardner, Chairperson
Senate Committee on Education
Statehouse, Room 445B-S
Topeka, Kansas 66612

Dear Senator Baumgardner:

SUBJECT: Fiscal Note for SB 317 by Senator Givens

In accordance with KSA 75-3715a, the following fiscal note concerning SB 317 is respectfully submitted to your committee.

SB 317 would amend the special education finance law to require the per teacher amount of Special Education Categorical Aid to be calculated on the prior school year's number of teachers and paraprofessionals. Current law requires that the state aid calculation to be based on the current year's number of teachers and paraprofessionals.

The Department of Education states that enactment of SB 317 would have no affect on Special Education Categorical Aid to school districts, as current appropriations for this aid category are prorated. For FY 2020, Special Education Categorical Aid at 92.0 percent of school districts' special education excess costs would total \$608.4 million. However, approved appropriations for FY 2020 total \$497.9 million, or 75.3 percent of excess costs. *The FY 2021 Governor's Budget Report* includes expenditures of \$505.4 million, or 72.0 percent of school districts' estimated special education excess costs for Special Education Categorical Aid total.

The Department further notes that if Special Education Categorical Aid were eventually funded according to current law, school districts that add special education teachers and paraprofessionals would not receive additional aid until the following year for the additional staff.

Sincerely,



Larry L. Campbell
Director of the Budget

cc: Dale Dennis, Education