

March 20, 2024

The Honorable Steven K. Howe, Chairperson  
House Committee on Higher Education Budget  
300 SW 10th Avenue, Room 281-N  
Topeka, Kansas 66612

Dear Representative Howe:

SUBJECT: Fiscal Note for HB 2843 by House Committee on Appropriations

In accordance with KSA 75-3715a, the following fiscal note concerning HB 2843 is respectfully submitted to your committee.

HB 2843 would establish the Scholarship Task Force, which would be composed of nine members as outlined in the bill. Members would be appointed to the Scholarship Task Force on or before July 1, 2024. The Chairperson of the House Committee on Higher Education Budget would call the first meeting. At the first meeting, members of the Scholarship Task Force would select a Chairperson and Vice Chairperson. If approved by the Legislative Coordinating Council, members attending meetings of the Scholarship Task Force would be paid amounts for expenses, mileage, and subsistence. The staff of the Office of the Revisor of Statutes, the Legislative Research Department, and Legislative Administrative Services would provide assistance as requested by the Scholarship Task Force. The Board of Regents would provide consultants, assistance, information, or documentation when requested by the Scholarship Task Force.

The Scholarship Task Force would have the following duties:

1. Study each scholarship and scholarship program that currently exists in Kansas, including, but not limited to, those scholarships available to Kansas residents who are first generation college students;
2. Make recommendations with regard to such scholarships; and
3. Report to the Senate Committee on Ways and Means and the House Committee on Appropriations on any such recommendations on or before January 15, 2025.

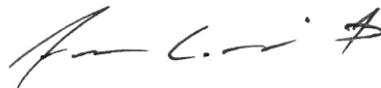
The bill would also enact the Kansas Academic Excellence Scholarship Program Act, which would replace the Kansas Ethnic Minority Scholarship Program. The Kansas Academic Excellence Scholarship Program would provide financial assistance through the awarding of academic excellence scholarships to Kansas scholars who have demonstrated academic excellence. The bill would amend and remove various definitions. HB 2843 would take effect upon its publication in the *Kansas Register*.

Estimated State Fiscal Effect			
	FY 2024	FY 2025	FY 2026
Expenditures			
State General Fund	--	\$1,718,735	\$1,700,000
Fee Fund(s)	--	--	--
Federal Fund	--	--	--
Total Expenditures	--	\$1,718,735	\$1,700,000
Revenues			
State General Fund	--	--	--
Fee Fund(s)	--	--	--
Federal Fund	--	--	--
Total Revenues	--	--	--
FTE Positions	--	--	--

The Kansas Board of Regents estimates additional funding of \$1.7 million from the State General Fund in both FY 2025 and FY 2026 would be needed if the bill is enacted. According to the Board, the current State General Fund appropriation for the Kansas Ethnic Minority Scholarship is \$296,498, which has not been enough to fund qualified applicants. The Board states HB 2843 would expand the number of qualified applicants and the agency estimates the number of eligible applicants and scholarship renewals would exceed the current appropriation for the Kansas Ethnic Minority Scholarship. The Board indicates administration of the Kansas Academic Excellence Scholarship and staff time needed for the Scholarship Task Force could be absorbed within existing resources.

Legislative Administrative Services estimates expenditures of \$18,735 in FY 2025 from the State General Fund if the bill is enacted for meeting expenses for four legislators and five non-legislators. Of the above amount, \$10,312 would be for legislator pay and other associated costs, \$5,535 would be for non-legislator pay and other associated costs, \$2,648 would be for a committee assistant, and \$240 would be for publication in the *Kansas Register*. The agency's estimate assumes there would be four meetings per year. Any fiscal effect associated with HB 2843 is not reflected in *The FY 2025 Governor's Budget Report*.

Sincerely,



Adam C. Proffitt  
Director of the Budget

cc: Becky Pottebaum, Board of Regents  
Tom Day, Legislative Services