

February 11, 2022

The Honorable Ken Rahjes, Chairperson
House Committee on Agriculture
Statehouse, Room 112-N
Topeka, Kansas 66612

Dear Representative Rahjes:

SUBJECT: Fiscal Note for HB 2605 by House Committee on Agriculture

In accordance with KSA 75-3715a, the following fiscal note concerning HB 2605 is respectfully submitted to your committee.

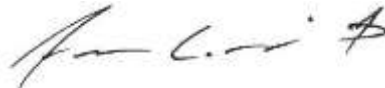
HB 2605 would expand the requirements for the Veterinary Training Program for Rural Kansas. The bill would create an advisory committee to oversee the Veterinary Training Program for Rural Kansas consisting of two members from the Kansas Veterinary Medical Association, two members from the Kansas Department of Agriculture, two members from Kansas State University College of Veterinary Medicine, and the Animal Health Commissioner.

The bill would also change the loan amount from \$20,000 per year to an amount not to exceed \$25,000 per year and lift the current limitation of entering into agreements with only five first-year students each year. Furthermore, HB 2605 would raise the participating county population requirement from 35,000 to 40,000 people or a registered veterinary premise under a licensed veterinarian if food animal patients make up at least 50.0 percent of such veterinarian's practice. These changes in eligibility and population parameters would expand the pool of eligible students. However, overall participation would be limited to the annual state appropriation amount for the Veterinary Training Program for Rural Kansas.

Kansas State University College of Veterinary Medicine states that changes resulting from HB 2605 would not warrant any noteworthy increases in operating costs, and any expansion of eligibility or population parameters would be limited to the appropriated amount for this program. Any expenditures related to travel for attending meetings for the committee would be handled within existing resources. The Department of Agriculture also states that any expenditures related to travel for attending meetings for the committee would be handled within existing resources.

The Board of Veterinary Examiners states that HB 2605 could result in more veterinarians working in rural underserved areas of Kansas, which could increase the number of veterinarians that are licensed in the state and increase revenue to the Veterinary Examiners Fee Fund. Any fiscal effect associated with HB 2605 is not reflected in *The FY 2023 Governor's Budget Report*.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Adam Proffitt", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Adam Proffitt
Director of the Budget

cc: Ethan Erickson, Kansas State University
Kellen Liebsch, Agriculture
Mark Olson, Veterinary Examiners