Adam Proffitt, Director



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Laura Kelly, Governor

February 8, 2022

The Honorable Fred Patton, Chairperson House Committee on Judiciary Statehouse, Room 582-N Topeka, Kansas 66612

Dear Representative Patton:

SUBJECT: Fiscal Note for HB 2603 by House Committee on Judiciary

In accordance with KSA 75-3715a, the following fiscal note concerning HB 2603 is respectfully submitted to your committee.

HB 2603 would eliminate the deadline for filing civil lawsuits seeking damages for childhood sexual abuse. Under current law, these lawsuits must be filed within three years of the claimant turning 18 years old or within three years of the claimant discovering that an injury or illness was caused by childhood sexual abuse, whichever is later. The bill would also eliminate the requirement that the claimant must have suffered injury or illness from childhood sexual abuse and that a claimant may file suit as a result of damages suffered from child sexual abuse, without the injury or illness provision. The bill would add internet trading in child pornography or aggravated internet trading in child pornography to the definition of "childhood sexual abuse." The bill also specifies that all claims against any party for damages suffered as a result of childhood sexual abuse that occurred on or after July 1, 1984, would be revived.

The Office of Judicial Administration states enactment of HB 2603 could increase the number of cases filed in district court because it removes the statute of limitations to file an action related to childhood sexual abuse, which could result in more time spent by court employees and judges processing and deciding these cases. The Office estimates enactment of the bill could result in the collection of additional docket fees in those cases filed under the bill's provisions. According to the Office, a fiscal effect cannot be estimated. Any fiscal effect associated with HB 2603 is not reflected in The FY 2023 Governor's Budget Report.

Sincerely,

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Adam Proffitt Director of the Budget

cc: Vicki Jacobsen, Judiciary