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MEMORANDUM

To: Chairperson Bowers
Members of the Senate Committee on Local Government, Transparency and Ethics

From: The Office of Revisor of Statutes

Date: February 3, 2026

Subject: SB 124 – Limitations on unilateral annexations by cities.

Senate Bill No. 124 (SB 124) would amend two statutes governing annexation actions by cities. First, SB 124 would amend K.S.A. 12-520 to establish new limits on annexations by cities. Currently, a tract of land that is devoted to agricultural use and is 21 or more acres cannot be annexed without the owner's written consent. The bill would expand this restriction to include all agricultural land regardless of size and any other tract of land that is less than 20 acres.

Second, SB 124 would put a strict prohibition on annexing narrow corridors of land to gain access to noncontiguous tracts. Current law provides a qualifier that such narrow corridor must have a tangible value and purpose other than enhancing future annexations. Under the bill, the qualifier is stricken meaning all annexations of narrow corridors that provide access to noncontiguous tracts are prohibited. Additionally, such annexations are specifically added to K.S.A. 12-538 providing a specific cause of action against a city attempting to conduct such annexation.

Third, SB 124 adds a new subsection to K.S.A. 12-520 stating that no tract of land owned by any governmental entity, other than the city attempting to annex land, will be considered to be contiguous to the boundaries of such city for purposes of annexation.

If enacted, SB 124 would become effective on July 1, 2026.