

SESSION OF 2003

SUPPLEMENTAL NOTE ON HOUSE BILL NO. 2179

As Amended by Senate Committee of the Whole

Brief*

HB 2179 concerns the State Board of Education and would permit officers and employees of the state, a school district, or a community college to serve on the State Board of Education. Current law prohibits these individuals from serving on the State Board.

Background

HB 2179, as introduced and passed by the House, concerned qualifications to serve on the State Board of Education. The Senate Committee amended into HB 2179 the provisions of SB 190, which concerns the election of State Board of Education members.

Under current law, members of the State Board are elected in partisan elections. In addition to making State Board elections nonpartisan, SB 190, as introduced, would have changed the time of the elections from the August primary and November general elections in even-numbered years to the spring elections in odd-numbered years. The Senate Education Committee amended the bill to retain the present provision that State Board members are elected at the August primary and the November general elections in even-numbered years.

According to information prepared by the National Association of State Boards of Education, nine states have state boards of education whose members all are elected. Five of these states (Alabama, Colorado, Kansas, Michigan, and Texas) elect state board members in partisan elections and four states (Hawaii, Nebraska, Nevada, and Utah) elect state board members in nonpartisan elections.

The Senate Committee of the Whole removed the sections of SB 190 that the Senate Committee on Education had added.

*Supplemental notes are prepared by the Legislative Research Department and do not express legislative intent. The supplemental note and fiscal note for this bill may be accessed on the Internet at <http://www.kslegislature.org/klrd>

There would be no fiscal impact to the state due to passage of HB 2179.