

SESSION OF 2007

SUPPLEMENTAL NOTE ON SENATE BILL NO. 45

As Amended by Senate Committee on
Judiciary

Brief*

SB 45, as amended, would authorize the 18th Judicial District to elect the chief judge in that judicial district. The chief judge would serve a two-year term. If a chief judge is not re-elected, resigns, or declines to serve as chief judge, the district judges in the judicial district would elect another chief judge.

Background

The proponents of the bill included Senator Phil Journey, sponsor of the bill, and Bill McKean, citizen. Judges Jeffrey E. Goering, Anthony Powell, Robb Rumsey and Eric Yost of the 18th Judicial District provided written testimony in favor of the bill.

The opponent of the bill included Kathy Porter of the Office of Judicial Administration.

The Committee amended the bill to authorize only the 18th judicial district (Sedgwick County) to change the selection process of the chief judge in that judicial district. Under current law, the Kansas Supreme Court designates a district judge as chief judge in each judicial district. The bill would authorize the judges in the 18th judicial district to elect a chief judge.

The fiscal note from the Division of Budget states that by simply changing the selection process, enactment of the bill would have no fiscal effect.

*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>