

SESSION OF 2007

SUPPLEMENTAL NOTE ON HOUSE BILL NO. 2082

As Amended by House Committee on
Elections and Governmental Organization

Brief*

HB 2082 would amend current law regarding petitions for an ordinance initiative to include county resolutions in addition to those for cities which are included in current law. The bill would require that a petition initiative for a city ordinance or county resolution include signatures of 25 percent of the persons who voted in the last city as count election.

An election on the initiative, if it is not passed within 20 days, would be submitted to the voters on or before the next general election, but no sooner than 90 days after the initiative is submitted to the city or county clerk.

Under current law, a petition for an initiative or referendum would require signatures equal to a percentage of electors who voted in the last preceding regular city election. For cities of the first class the threshold is 25 percent. For cities of the second and third class the threshold is 40 percent. Counties are not included in the current statute, and have no general initiative procedure.

Background

Proponents of the original bill included a representative of Americans for Prosperity Kansas and a resident of Overland Park, Kansas.

Opponents of the original bill included the League of

*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>

Kansas Municipalities, the Kansas Association of Counties, the City of Overland Park, the Overland Park Chamber of Commerce, and the Lenexa Chamber of Commerce.

The House Committee on Elections and Governmental Organization amended the bill to make the requirement of signatures 25 percent of those who voted in the last regular election of the city or county.

The House Committee also amended the current requirement that the question be submitted in a special election if the next city election is not held within 90 days after the petition is submitted. The amended bill would require an election by or on the next election held at least 90 days after the petition is submitted to the city or county clerk.

The original bill would increase the number of initiatives and referenda in cities and counties but the precise fiscal impact could not be estimated.