

SESSION OF 2008

**SUPPLEMENTAL NOTE ON
SUBSTITUTE FOR SENATE BILL NO. 64**

As Recommended by Senate Committee on
Judiciary

Brief*

Sub. for SB 64 would create the Family Dispute Resolution Fund which would be funded through a \$25.00 increase in post-decree docket fees.

Background

The establishment of a Family Dispute Resolution Fund was initially introduced in SB 546. The bill received a hearing and was eventually passed by the Senate Committee with an amendment to change the funding source from an increase on post-decree docket fees to a percentage of the amount credited to the state treasury from the district court docket fee. The bill was killed on final action. Sub. for SB 64 contains the language of SB 546 as introduced.

The proponent of the bill, as introduced, is Judge Allen Slater, 10th Judicial District (Johnson County), on behalf of the Supreme Court's Domestic High Conflict Committee. Judge Slater testified that the fund would provide grants to local courts to offer programs and services to parties involved in high conflict domestic cases. The goal is to reduce families' dependency on the courts in resolving family-related conflicts. The programs could include high conflict education courses, high conflict parenting plans, case management, child custody evaluations, neutral exchanges sites, and other programs determined by the Kansas Supreme Court.

*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>

There was no testimony in opposition to the bill in the Senate Committee.

The fiscal note on the bill, as introduced, indicates that passage of the bill would have a fiscal effect on members of the public who would be required to pay the additional \$25.00 in post-decree docket fees.