

SESSION OF 2008

**SUPPLEMENTAL NOTE ON HOUSE BILL NO. 2408**

As Amended by House Committee of the Whole

**Brief\***

This bill would amend existing law related to campaign finance to require that a political action committee or a party committee provide more detailed information on certain expenditures than currently required. The requirements would apply to the following types of expenditures:

- An expenditure for an in-kind contribution to a candidate in an aggregate amount of \$300 or more, and
- An aggregate expenditure of \$300 or more made without the consent or cooperation of the candidate, and which expressly advocates the nomination, election or defeat of that candidate.

The bill would require those committees to report the name and address of the candidate; the amount, date, and purpose of each expenditure; and the specific service or product provided.

In addition, the bill would make several technical corrections.

**Background**

This bill was requested by the Governmental Ethics Commission. The Commission's Executive Director noted that under current law, political action committees and party

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\*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>

committees do not have to report the name of any candidate they make expenditures on behalf of, although they must report the vendor to whom the expenditure was made. She stated the bill would provide the public with a better understanding of the money being spent to support or oppose Kansas candidates.

There was no testimony in opposition to the bill.

The House Committee on Elections and Governmental Organization amended the bill to incorporate changes that would improve clarity, as well as technical changes proposed by the Revisor's Office.

The House Committee of the Whole made a technical amendment to correct a statutory reference.

The fiscal note prepared by the Division of the Budget indicates that passage of the bill would have no fiscal effect.