

SESSION OF 2008

SUPPLEMENTAL NOTE ON HOUSE BILL NO. 2775

As Amended by House Committee on
Federal and State Affairs

Brief*

HB 2775 would amend the State Governmental Ethics Law by requiring municipalities which engage in lobbying to file a report with the Secretary of State on or before January 31 of each year disclosing the name of the person or firm or association paid to lobby as well as costs related to lobbying.

In the bill, municipality would be defined as any county, township, city, school district, or any other political or taxing subdivision of the state.

Municipalities would have to report governmental expenditures including dues paid to associations, groups, or organizations that employ or contract with lobbyists.

Persons employed by a municipality and lobbying in excess of 40 hours in a calendar year on state-owned or leased property must report salary, benefits, and expenses to the Secretary of State.

Background

Proponents of the bill included: Americans for Prosperity; a City Commissioner, Arkansas City; the Kansas Association of Broadcasting; KMBC TV; the Kansas Press Association; Leavenworth School Board; a Sedgwick County Commissioner; Kansas Taxpayers Network; and several concerned citizens.

*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>

Opponents included: the League of Kansas Municipalities; the Unified Government of Wyandotte County; Kansas Association of Counties; Kansas Association of Schools Boards; and the Olathe School District.

The House Committee clarified the definition of lobbying and contracting with lobbyists. Also, the Committee amended the bill to include lobbying on state-owned or leased property.

According to the fiscal note, the passage of the bill would have no fiscal effect on the state budget.