

SESSION OF 2009

**SUPPLEMENTAL NOTE ON
SUBSTITUTE FOR SENATE BILL NO. 117**

As Amended by Senate Committee of the Whole

Brief*

Sub. for SB 117 would make additions to the statute relating to the crime of corrupt political advertising of a state or local office. The bill would do the following:

- Add certain publications – *i.e.*, websites, e-mails or other types of Internet communications, disseminated to 25 or more individuals – to the list of publications that must include a statement indicating who paid for or sponsored the publications. Absent such statements, these publications would fall under the definition of “corrupt political advertising.”
- Require any vendor or other person who provides any of the services delineated in the section defining “corrupt political advertising” to maintain, for one year, a record showing the name and address of the purchaser or requestor of the services. Failure to maintain such a record would be deemed a class C misdemeanor.
- Blend two versions of the existing statute, which resulted from the statute being amended twice in 2007. The new language shown in subsection (b)(1)(C) was enacted by the Legislature in one of the 2007 amendments to that statute.

*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>

Background

The original bill related to disclosures on certain political advertisings by establishing a new section of law. The Executive Director of the Kansas Governmental Ethics Commission (KGECE) testified in favor of the bill as amended, indicating the bill is the result of a recommendation made by the KGECE in its 2008 Annual Report and Recommendations. No opposing testimony was received.

The Senate Committee on Ethics and Elections adopted a substitute bill which deleted the bill's original contents and replaced them with the revised version.

The Senate Committee of the Whole amended the bill to add the requirement that vendors and others keep records of their political advertising services.

According to the fiscal note, passage of the bill would have no fiscal effect on the KGECE and could be implemented within current staffing and operating expenditures. The bill could increase costs for political promoters related to the new disclosure requirements.