

SESSION OF 2009

SUPPLEMENTAL NOTE ON HOUSE BILL NO. 2197

As Amended by Senate Committee of the Whole

Brief*

HB 2197 would amend existing law to authorize the Kansas Board of Regents to adopt rules and regulations setting standards that deviate from those established in the statute for admission of students to state educational institutions. Any such rules and regulations that are more rigorous than those set out in the statute, as amended by the bill, could not go into effect prior to the first day of the fourth academic year following the year in which the rules and regulations are adopted.

The bill would provide that Kansas residents and non-residents graduating from non-accredited private secondary schools could be admitted to a state educational institution if the student has a composite ACT score of not less than 21 points. In addition, a resident who graduated from a non-accredited school would qualify for admission if the applicant is 21 years of age or older.

The bill would allow each state educational institution to admit not more than 10 percent of the total number of transfer students who do not meet minimum admission standards. The bill also would authorize institutions to admit not more than 10 percent of the total number of non-resident transfer students who do not meet the minimum admission standards. The Board of Regents would be required to adopt rules and regulations prescribing systemwide criteria and guidelines for admission of transfer students as exceptions to the minimum standards. The bill also would require the Board of Regents to report by January 31 each year to the Legislature the number

*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>

and percentage of transfer student admissions permitted as exceptions during the preceding academic year.

The bill would amend existing law by removing the requirement for one unit of computer technology in the prescribed pre-college curriculum. Finally, the bill would permit the Board of Regents to submit compiled reports to the Legislature.

Background

The bill was introduced by the House Higher Education Committee and embodies the recommendations of the State University Admissions Task Force.

Proponents of the bill at the House Higher Education Committee hearing included members of the State University Admissions Task Force. No opponents to the bill presented testimony to the House Committee.

The House Committee amended the bill to remove language that specifically would have allowed the Board of Regents to set different admission standards for each state educational institution.

The Senate Committee of the Whole amended the bill indicating that any rules and regulations that are more rigorous than those set out in statute, as amended by the bill, could not go into effect prior to the first day of the fourth academic year in which the rules and regulations are adopted.

The fiscal note prepared by the Division of the Budget on the introduced version of the bill did not indicate whether enactment of the bill would have any fiscal effect.