

SESSION OF 2010

SUPPLEMENTAL NOTE ON SENATE BILL NO. 417

As Amended by Senate Committee of the Whole

Brief*

SB 417 would make a change in the campaign finance act regarding campaign treasurers' reports of contributions greater than \$150. The bill would delete the requirement that the "industry" of the contributor be listed on the report.

Background

A staff representative from the Kansas Governmental Ethics Commission (KGEC) testified in support of the bill, on behalf of KGEC staff. Testimony indicated that the KGEC recommended in 2008 that candidates' treasurers be required to list the occupation and employer of individual donors who contribute more than \$150 on their receipts and expenditures reports. The Legislature chose instead to require the industry to be listed. The KGEC staff testimony further indicated listing the industry has caused confusion and errors because treasurers did not know how to categorize the donor's industry as it relates to the individual's occupation. This, in turn, has resulted in additional work and costs at KGEC.

The original bill simply deleted "and industry" from the requirement to list the donor's occupation. The Senate Committee on Ethics and Elections amended the bill to replace "industry" with "employer." The Senate Committee of the Whole deleted "employer," thereby returning the bill to its original form.

*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>

According to the fiscal note, passage of SB 417 would have no fiscal effect.