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MEMORANDUM

To: House Committee on Judiciary
From: Office of Revisor of Statutes
Date: March 3, 2025
Subject: Bill Brief for SB 53 (As Introduced)

Senate Bill 53 provides that the attorney members of the board of trustees of a county law library in certain counties shall be appointed by the chief judge of the judicial district and allows such board to authorize the chief judge to use certain fees for the purpose of facilitating and enhancing functions of the district court of the county.

The bill amends K.S.A. 20-3127, the statute relating to the board of trustees for county law libraries. Current law in subsection (b) provides that the board of trustees of the law library in all counties except for Johnson, Sedgwick, and Douglas counties consist of the district judge or judges of the district court and not fewer than two attorneys who shall be elected for two-year terms by a majority of the attorneys residing in the county. The bill changes the attorney membership selection to be not fewer than two attorneys who reside in the county, appointed by the chief judge of the judicial district.

Current law in subsection (f) provides that the board of trustees of the law library in all counties except for Johnson and Sedgwick counties may authorize the chief judge of the judicial district to use fees collected pursuant to K.S.A. 20-3126, the statute that requires attorneys to pay an annual registration fee, for the purpose of facilitating and enhancing functions of the district court of the county. The bill adds that fees collected pursuant to K.S.A. 20-3129, the statute that authorizes the clerk of the district court to tax a library fee on case filings, may be authorized for use for such purpose.

The bill would take effect from and after publication in the statute book, July 1, 2025.