

Reimbursement for Legislative Travel and Executive Branch Receipt of Discount Tickets; Senate Sub. for Sub. for HB 2060

Senate Sub. for Sub. for HB 2060 amends provisions of the State Governmental Ethics Law regarding legislators' receipt of reimbursement for expenses related to travel and Executive Branch employees' receipt of tickets or access to entertainment or sporting events or activities.

Legislator Travel Reimbursement

The bill authorizes legislators to accept reimbursement for expenses related to travel, subsistence, attendance, and participation in meetings, programs, and activities of any non-profit, non-partisan organization that does not engage in lobbying in Kansas and removes the requirement that the organization be a national organization established for the purpose of serving, informing, educating, and strengthening state legislatures in all states of the nation, so long as the funds are paid from the funds of such organization.

[*Note:* Continuing law authorizing legislators to accept reimbursement from governments of any foreign nation, any organization organized under the laws of such foreign nation, or any international organization for such travel expenses would not be amended by the bill.]

Executive Branch Employees

The bill authorizes all officers and employees of the Executive Branch, including the Governor and the Lieutenant Governor, the Governor's spouse, and all members of boards, commissions, and authorities of the Executive Branch, to solicit or accept free or special discounted tickets (tickets) or access to entertainment or sporting events or activities (activities) if:

- It is obvious to the person accepting tickets or access to activities that it is not being provided due to the person's official position; or
- The person's presence at an activity serves a legitimate state purpose or interest and the person's agency authorizes, or would authorize, payment for travel and expenses.