

SESSION OF 2025

SUPPLEMENTAL NOTE ON HOUSE BILL NO. 2037

As Amended by Senate Committee of the Whole

Brief*

HB 2037, as amended, would make changes to the membership of the Council on Travel and Tourism (Council) and a tourism matching grant program (Program).

Council on Travel and Tourism

The bill would expand the Council from 17 to 20 members by adding 3 members to be appointed by the Governor representing the National Independent Venue Association, the Kansas Museums Association, and the Kansas Sampler Foundation.

The appointment would be from a list of three individuals submitted by the organizations. The individuals submitted by the National Independent Venue Association would be required to be Kansas residents.

The bill would also make technical changes to the membership by updating the names of standing committees of the Legislature, quorum requirements, and outdated language related to the terms of the initial members appointed by the Governor.

Tourism Matching Grant Program

The bill would remove a requirement that 75 percent of grants made under the Program be allocated to public or not-

*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 <https://klrd.gov/>

for-profit entities and would remove the individual entity grant allocation limit of 20 percent.

Background

The bill was introduced by the House Committee on Commerce, Labor and Economic Development at the request of a representative of the Department of Commerce.

House Committee on Commerce, Labor and Economic Development

In the House Committee hearing, **proponent** testimony was provided by a representative of the Department of Commerce. The proponent generally stated the bill would better align grant funding with the organizations that typically apply and allow the Council to award funding to the most feasible projects in the application process.

Written-only proponent testimony was provided by a representative of the Travel Industry Association of Kansas, who stated the bill would provide more perspectives and interests from the tourism community, which may attract more visitors to Kansas.

No other testimony was provided.

The House Committee recommended the bill be placed on the Consent Calendar.

Senate Committee on Commerce

In the Senate Committee hearing, **proponent** testimony was provided by a representative of the Department of Commerce that was substantially similar to testimony provided in the House Committee hearing.

No other testimony was provided.

Senate Committee of the Whole

The Senate Committee of the Whole amended the bill to remove the requirement that 75 percent of grants made under the Program be allocated to public or not-for-profit entities.

Fiscal Information

According to the fiscal note prepared by the Division of the Budget on the bill, as introduced, the Department of Commerce indicates it is required to reimburse Council members for mileage expenses for meeting attendance. Any reimbursement expenditures for additional members would be absorbed within the agency's current resources.

State government; Council on Travel and Tourism; membership; Tourism Development and Promotion Matching Grant Program