

SESSION OF 2025

SUPPLEMENTAL NOTE ON HOUSE BILL NO. 2237

As Recommended by House Committee on
Appropriations

Brief*

HB 2237 would amend the Employee Award and Recognition Program (KSA 75-37,105), which authorizes hiring, recruitment, and retention bonuses to state employees for “distinguished accomplishment, meritorious service, innovations, Kansas quality management, volunteerism or length of service.”

Monetary Cap

The bill would increase the maximum total gross value of awards that an employee could receive in a single fiscal year from the current limit of \$3,500 to \$10,000. Any monetary award in excess of \$3,500 for Executive Branch employees, except employees of elected officials, the State Board of Regents, and the Kansas Public Employee Retirement System, would require approval of the Governor.

Administrative Oversight

The Secretary of Administration would provide oversight and administrative review of employee award and recognition programs in Executive Branch agencies and appointed state councils and commissions.

*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/>

Reporting Requirement

The bill would require each state agency that has provided a monetary award to submit an annual report to the Secretary of Administration by August 1 detailing the number of awards paid in each category and the total dollar amount of each award or bonus for the previous fiscal year.

The bill would also require the Secretary of Administration to compile and report this information to the House Committee on Appropriations and the Senate Committee on Ways and Means at the beginning of each regular legislative session.

Background

The bill was introduced by Representative Francis at the request of the Department of Administration.

House Committee on Appropriations

In the House Committee hearing on February 27, 2025, **proponent** testimony was provided by the Secretary of Corrections and Secretary of Administration as well as representatives from the Kansas Department for Aging and Disability Services and Larned State Hospital. The proponents indicated removing the existing cap would allow for more effective recruitment and retention strategies.

No other testimony was provided.

Fiscal Information

According to the fiscal note prepared by the Division of the Budget on the bill, as introduced, the bill would result in additional expenditures made from within approved funding limitations. However, the extent of the program and potential requests cannot be estimated.

Any fiscal effect associated with the bill is not reflected in *The FY 2026 Governor's Budget Report*.

Budget; personnel; monetary award