

SESSION OF 2026

SUPPLEMENTAL NOTE ON HOUSE BILL NO. 2450

As Amended by House Committee on Elections

Brief*

HB 2450, as amended, would amend the Campaign Finance Act (Act) to exempt certain candidate campaign accounts from the termination requirement under the Act and to conform with other provisions in the Act regarding accepting campaign contributions for the general election before a primary election.

Current law directs that if a state or local elected official, for two successive elections, decides not to run for the same office, is defeated in the primary or the general election, or a combination of the two, then any candidate campaign account associated with that former official for that specific office must be terminated within 90 days of the second election. The bill would exempt from this termination requirement campaign accounts that hold more than \$1,000 or that have liabilities exceeding \$1,000 in aggregate.

Background

The bill was introduced by the House Committee on Elections at the request of Representative Waggoner.

House Committee on Elections

In the House Committee hearing, **proponent** testimony was provided by Representatives Brunk and Esau. The conferees generally stated that there are already guardrails in

*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/>

place on how a candidate may spend money in a campaign account, and the bill would be a compromise to allow serious candidates to keep options open while still removing administrative burdens on agencies maintaining the required filings.

No other testimony was provided.

The House Committee amended the bill to add a technical amendment to conform provisions of the Campaign Finance Act regarding accepting campaign contributions for a general election before the date of a primary election.

Fiscal Information

According to the fiscal note prepared by the Division of the Budget on the bill, as introduced, the Public Disclosure Commission indicates the bill would not have a fiscal effect. The Office of the Secretary of State indicates it would use existing resources to update training materials for local election officials and update educational and promotional materials for the public. Any fiscal effect associated with the bill is not reflected in *The FY 2027 Governor's Budget Report*.

The Kansas Association of Counties indicates the bill would have no fiscal effect on counties.

Campaign Finance Act; candidate campaign accounts; campaign contributions