

SESSION OF 2026

SUPPLEMENTAL NOTE ON HOUSE BILL NO. 2460

As Amended by House Committee on Judiciary

Brief*

HB 2460, as amended, would add exceptions to required public agency disclosure under the Kansas Open Records Act on public websites that are searchable by keyword regarding the home address or home ownership status of certain elected officials and other certain law enforcement officers, attorneys, judges, and other officials employed for five or more years, upon request, when such disclosure is not otherwise required by current law.

Current law prohibits a public agency from requiring the disclosure of a home address or home ownership status on a website searchable by keyword for the following positions:

- Parole, probation, court services, community correctional service, local correctional, or local detention officers;
- Federal judges, Kansas Supreme Court justices, Kansas Court of Appeals judges, district judges, district magistrate judges, or municipal judges;
- Presiding officers who conduct hearings pursuant to the Kansas Administrative Procedure Act, administrative law judges employed the Office of Administrative Hearings, members of the State Board of Tax Appeals, administrative judges who conduct workers' compensation hearings, and members of the Workers' Compensation Board; and

*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/>

- U.S. Attorneys for the District of Kansas, Assistant U.S. Attorneys, Special Assistant U.S. Attorneys, the Attorney General, Assistant Attorneys General, Special Assistant Attorneys General, county and district attorneys, assistant county and district attorneys, special assistant county and district attorneys, city attorneys, assistant city attorneys, or special assistant city attorneys.

The bill would extend this exemption, upon request, to any person employed in those positions for five or more years and not currently employed in that position.

[*Note:* Continuing law would require such persons to file with the custodian of the record to have their identifying information restricted from public access on the associated public website.]

The bill would also extend this exemption from address disclosure to members of the Legislature, current state officers elected on a statewide basis, current members of the Board of Education (KBOE), or current elected members of the governing body of any Kansas municipality as defined in current law.

The bill also would remove the exemption from disclosure of records by a public agency records containing information obtained and prepared by the Office of the State Bank Commissioner (OSBC) in the course of licensing or examining a person engaged in money transmission business.

Background

The bill was introduced by Representative Essex.

House Committee on Judiciary

In the House committee hearing, **proponent** testimony was provided by Representative Essex, Representative Howell, and a representative of the City of Topeka. The proponents generally stated the bill would help protect legislators and their families. Proponents also suggested including local elected officials in the protections afforded by the bill.

Neutral testimony was provided by a representative of Loud Light Civic Action. The testimony generally stated the bill would provide a safeguard for legislators but legislators are elected within a specific geography and that should be considered when considering the bill.

Written-only proponent testimony was provided by a representative of the Kansas Association of School Boards.

No other testimony was provided.

The Committee amended the bill to:

- Incorporate amended language from HB 2419 to exempt from disclosure, upon request, home addresses or home ownership status from public websites searchable by keywords for certain attorneys, judges, and law enforcement officers;
- Expand the exemption, upon request, from disclosure for home addresses or home ownership status from public websites searchable by keywords to include all current officers elected on a statewide bases, current members of the KBOE, and current elected members of Kansas municipality governing bodies; and

- Remove the exemption from disclosure for records by a public agency containing information obtained and prepared by the OSBC in the course of licensing or examining a person engaged in money transmission business.

Background for HB 2419

The bill was prefiled for introduction by Representative McNorton on January 7, 2026.

House Committee on Judiciary

In the House committee hearing, **proponent** testimony was provided by Representative McNorton and a representative of the Kansas Association of Chiefs of Police, Kansas Peace Officers Association, and Kansas Sheriffs Association. The proponents generally stated the bill would extend current protections to retired law enforcement, prosecutors, judges, and their families.

Neutral testimony was provided by a representative of the Office of the State Bank Commissioner. The testimony requested a repeal of a KORA exception related to money transmitters that is considered duplicative.

Written-only proponent testimony was provided by representatives of the Kansas Bureau of Investigation, Kansas State Troopers Association, and the League of Kansas Municipalities.

No other testimony was provided.

The Committee amended the bill to exempt from disclosure, upon request, the home addresses or home ownership status from public websites searchable by keywords for certain attorneys, judges, law enforcement officers, and other position to any person employed in those

positions for five or more years and not currently employed in that position.

Fiscal Information

HB 2460

According to the fiscal note prepared by the Division of the Budget on HB 2460 as introduced, the Kansas Public Disclosure Commission indicates enactment of the bill would have a minimal fiscal effect that could be absorbed within existing resources. The Commission estimates that approximately five individuals would no longer register with the Commission, resulting in a minimal loss of revenue, and that lobbyist handbooks would have to be reprinted at a minimal one-time cost to the agency.

The Office of the Secretary of State indicates enactment of the bill would have a minimal fiscal effect that could be handled within existing resources. The Office notes that it is able to make voter registration home addresses non-public in its systems.

The Department of Revenue indicates enactment of the bill would have a minimal fiscal effect to make sure record custodians are maintaining compliance with the new guidelines, which could be absorbed within existing resources.

Legislative Administrative Services indicates enactment of the bill would not have a fiscal effect on the Legislature. Any fiscal effect associated with enactment of the bill is not reflected in *The FY 2027 Governor's Budget Report*.

HB 2419

According to the fiscal note prepared by the Division of the Budget on HB 2419 as introduced, the Division of the

Budget estimates that any additional administrative cost, either to state agencies or other organizations, to comply with a restriction request from a Kansas Public Employees Retirement System retiree likely would be negligible.

Kansas Open Records Act; law enforcement; elected officials; judiciary; attorneys;
Office of State Bank Commissioner