

SESSION OF 2026

SUPPLEMENTAL NOTE ON SENATE BILL NO. 480

As Recommended by Senate Committee on
Judiciary

Brief*

SB 480 would revive certain repealed statutes related to estates of absentees.

The bill would revive the following statutes of the Probate Code that were previously repealed:

- KSA 59-2701, regarding jurisdiction and defining “absentee”;
- KSA 59-2702, regarding appointment of trustees for absentees;
- KSA 59-2703, regarding powers and duties of such trustees;
- KSA 59-2704, regarding presumption of death of absentees;
- KSA 59-2705, regarding termination of trust estate of absentees;
- KSA 59-2707, the Act supplemental; and
- KSA 59-2708, regarding presumptive death of absentees in cases of catastrophic events.

*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/>

The bill would also amend these statutes to make technical changes and to reflect that KSA-2706 would remain repealed.

The bill would be in effect upon publication in the *Kansas Register*.

Background

The bill was introduced by the Senate Committee on Judiciary at the request of a representative of the Kansas Judicial Council.

Senate Committee on Judiciary

In the Senate Committee hearing, a representative of Kansas Judicial Council offered **proponent** testimony, generally stating the bill would restore critical statutes that allow a court to appoint a trustee to manage the property of a person who is unexpectedly absent. The proponent stated these statutes were originally repealed by 2025 HB 2359, as part of enactment of new guardianship and conservatorship laws.

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

No other testimony was provided.

Fiscal Information

According to the fiscal note prepared by the Division of the Budget on the bill, the Office of Judicial Administration indicates enactment of the bill would have no fiscal effect.

Judiciary; Uniform Adult Guardianship and Protective Proceedings Jurisdiction Act; Uniform Guardianship, Conservatorship, and Other Protective Arrangements Act