

*SESSION OF 2019*

**SUPPLEMENTAL NOTE ON HOUSE BILL NO. 2170**

As Amended by House Committee on Elections

**Brief\***

HB 2170, as amended, would amend law concerning the electronic filing of campaign finance reports for state offices.

The bill would require all reports filed by treasurers for candidates for state office to file such reports electronically with the Office of the Secretary of State (Secretary).

Under the bill, any candidate for state office may request an exemption from the electronic filing requirement and the Executive Director of the Kansas Governmental Ethics Commission (KGEC) may grant such exemption for cause.

The bill would also make technical changes.

**Background**

The bill was introduced in the House Committee on Elections by Representative Blake Carpenter on behalf of the KGEC.

In the House Committee hearing, the Executive Director of the KGEC provided proponent testimony, stating the bill would save money and staff time, allow immediate access to both aggregate and candidate-specific data, and 40 states currently require electronic filing.

The House Committee amended the bill by allowing a candidate for state office to request an exemption from the

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\*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 <http://www.kslegislature.org>

electronic filing requirement and the KGECE Executive Director may grant such exemption for cause.

According to the fiscal note prepared by the Division of the Budget on the bill, as introduced, the Secretary indicates enactment of the bill, as introduced, would result in a minor decrease in expenses for the Secretary. Currently, there are several hundred candidates for state office who have active campaign finance accounts and approximately one-fourth of those candidates currently file reports electronically. With the mandatory electronic filing requirement, the Secretary estimates it would experience a cost savings of between \$2,000 and \$5,000 each year. Any fiscal effect associated with enactment of the bill is not reflected in *The FY 2020 Governor's Budget Report*.