

SESSION OF 2022

SUPPLEMENTAL NOTE ON SENATE BILL NO. 428

As Recommended by Senate Committee on
Transparency and Ethics

Brief*

SB 428 would make several changes to governmental ethics laws.

The bill would extend the time frame for a hearing by the Kansas Governmental Ethics Commission (Commission) upon a finding of probable cause of violations of ethics laws, from within 30 days to within 90 days.

The bill would authorize the Commission to request assistance from federal officers during a governmental ethics investigation and such federal officers to access Commission records.

Under continuing law, each lobbyist must register with the Secretary of State. The bill would require lobbyists to register electronically.

The bill would amend the time period during which a lobbyist must comply with registration and reporting requirements before a civil penalty is imposed, from five days from receipt of the notice to five days from the date the notice is deposited in the mail by the Commission.

The bill would also amend the time period during which a lobbyist must file an amended report before a civil penalty is imposed and such lobbyist's registration is revoked, from 30 days of receipt of the notice to 30 days from the date the notice is deposited in the mail by the Commission.

*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>

The bill would make technical changes, including removing a reference to a repealed statute.

Background

The bill was introduced by the Senate Committee on Transparency and Ethics at the request of the Executive Director of the Commission.

[*Note:* The bill contains provisions similar to those of HB 2576.]

Senate Committee on Transparency and Ethics

In the Senate Committee hearing, **proponent** testimony was provided by the Executive Director of the Commission. The proponent stated the bill would make technical and procedural amendments to the Act and would align the Act with the Commission's day-to-day practices.

No other testimony was provided.

Fiscal Information

According to the fiscal note prepared by the Division of the Budget on the bill, the Commission, the Office of the Attorney General, the Office of Judicial Administration, and the Office of the Secretary of State indicate enactment of the bill would have no fiscal effect on the operations of any of their respective agencies.

Governmental Ethics Commission; ethics; lobbyist