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MEMORANDUM

To: Senate Committee on Education
From: Tamera Lawrence, Assistant Revisor of Statutes
Date: February 18, 2019
Subject: Senate Bill 47—Student Opportunity Scholarship Program

Senate Bill 47 would create the student opportunity scholarship program to be administered by the state board of education. On and after July 1, 2020, the program would allow eligible students to receive a student opportunity scholarship.

An eligible student is a student who: (1) Attended a Kansas public high school for at least three consecutive years; (2) graduated prior to the student's senior year from a Kansas public high school; and (3) is enrolled or plans to enroll within one year in a postsecondary educational institution in Kansas. Eligible students would have to provide the state board proof of enrollment in a postsecondary educational institution within one year of graduation from high school and any other information deemed necessary by the state board.

The state board would be required to determine the number of eligible students who qualify to receive a student opportunity scholarship. The scholarship amount would be 95% of the BASE aid amount for the year the eligible student would have been in grade 12, less 2% that may be retained by the state board for the costs of administering the program. Additionally, an amount equal to 5% of the BASE aid amount for the year the student would have been in grade 12 would be provided to the school district from which the eligible student graduated.

The state board would be required to adopt rules and regulations to implement the program by July 1, 2020.

The bill would take effect July 1, 2019, upon publication in the statute book.