SESSION OF 2020

SUPPLEMENTAL NOTE ON HOUSE BILL NO. 2560

As Recommended by House Committee on <u>Elections</u>

Brief*

HB 2560 would require treasurers for candidates for state offices to file reports electronically with the Secretary of State. The bill would permit such candidates to request an exemption from the electronic filing requirement. The bill would permit the Executive Director of the Kansas Governmental Ethics Commission (Commission) to grant such an exception for cause.

The bill would make technical amendments.

Background

The bill was introduced in the House Committee on Elections by Representative Sutton.

In the House Committee hearing on February 11, 2020, the Executive Director of the Governmental Ethics Commission testified as a proponent, stating the bill could reduce campaign finance errors, increase transparency, and make the process of reviewing campaign finance reports more efficient. No neutral or opponent testimony was provided.

The House Committee held a hearing on, amended, and passed out a similar bill, HB 2170, concerning electronic filing for state candidates, on February 21, 2019. HB 2170 was removed from the House Calendar on February 28, 2019.

^{*}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

According to the fiscal note prepared by the Division of the Budget on the bill, the Commission indicates enactment of the bill could result in a reduction to expenditures of approximately \$3,000 in odd-numbered years due to a reduction in the need for data entry temporary assistance. The Commission indicates the bill could result in further savings to the agency and is unable to estimate the amount of savings but estimates the savings would increase over time as printing and mailing reports would become unnecessary due to electronic filing. The Office of the Secretary of State is unable to provide information on fiscal effects of enactment of the bill on agency operations. Any fiscal effect associated with enactment of the bill is not reflected in *The FY 2021 Governor's Budget Report*.