

SESSION OF 2002

SUPPLEMENTAL NOTE ON SENATE BILL NO. 619

As Amended by House Committee on
Appropriations

Brief*

SB 619, as amended, changes existing law regarding unanimous votes required by the State Finance Council. Under current law, all nine members of the State Finance Council must be present to vote affirmatively for any issue requiring a unanimous vote, such as the approval of moneys from the State Emergency Fund. The bill would allow any member of the Council who cannot be present to certify an absentee vote of the issue up to 10 days after the date of the meeting at which the item was voted on.

The bill, as amended, also increases by two the number of agencies that file budgets on a biennial basis. Currently, the Kansas Department of Human Resources and the Health Care Stabilization Fund Board of Governors are required to file their budgets with the Division of the Budget annually. With this amendment, the two agencies would be added to the statutory list of agencies which file budgets every two years. Budgets that are filed on a biennial basis include budget estimates for the current fiscal year and the following two years. The two agencies would begin filing their biennial budget requests with the FY 2004 budget submission.

Background

The Director of the Budget testified in support of the bill.

The Senate Committee amended the bill to reduce the time frame for which a member who cannot be present may certify an absentee vote from 30 days to 10 days.

*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/cgi-bin/fulltext/bills.cgi>

The fiscal note submitted by the Division of the Budget indicated that passage of the bill would not have a direct fiscal impact on the operations of the State Finance Council but could have an indirect impact if an absentee vote submitted under the authority of this bill allowed funds to be approved for a state emergency, that would otherwise not be available because of the absence of a member.

The House Committee amended the bill to incorporate the provisions of HB 2612 into the bill. That bill was recommended by the Legislative Budget Committee. Representatives of the Department of Human Resources and the Health Care Stabilization Board of Governors appeared and indicated their willingness to have those agencies added to the statutory list of biennial budget agencies.

Currently, 19 fee-funded agencies and the Governmental Ethics Commission are the only agencies which file biennial budgets. The House Committee amendments to the bill were technical in nature. The fiscal note submitted by the Division of the Budget on HB 2612 indicates the bill would have no fiscal impact.