

SESSION OF 2003

**SUPPLEMENTAL NOTE ON HOUSE BILL NO. 2009**

As Amended by Senate Committee on Education

**Brief\***

The bill would increase from \$10 to \$15 the maximum fee that may be imposed by the Board of Regents for issuance or duplication of general educational development (GED) credentials. The bill also would authorize the Board to charge for verifying GED credentials. The charge for verifying credentials also would be limited by the \$15 maximum that would be established by the bill for other fees. Fees authorized by the bill are paid by the applicant for the service. The bill also would change to June 1 the date by which the Board of Regents must set the fee for the fiscal year that begins the following July 1.

In addition, the bill would amend existing law to establish maximum fees that may be charged by the State Board of Regents for activities related to oversight of proprietary schools. The bill also would require the Board to collect a fee for providing transcripts to students who request them if the proprietary school has ceased operation. The Board's fees would be established in rules and regulations.

Under the bill, the Board of Regents would be required to establish in rules and regulations fees for certificates of approval, registration of representative, and providing transcripts to students who attended a proprietary school that has ceased operation. Fees would have to be set at the level necessary to implement the Board's responsibilities under the Proprietary School Act. The Board would be required to permit the Advisory Commission on Proprietary Schools to make recommendations regarding the fees. Statutory fees under existing law would remain in effect until the Board adopts rules and regulations as required by the bill.

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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/klrd>

The bill would become effective upon publication in the *Kansas Register*.

## **Background**

The House Committee amended the bill to adjust statutory dates for establishing and imposing new fees and to make the bill effective upon publication in the *Kansas Register*.

Existing law that would be unchanged by the bill authorizes the State Board of Regents to set the fee for these specific GED related services. The fee is to be set at a level that will generate sufficient revenue to administer the GED program.

Existing statutory dates for the establishment and effective dates of new fees for GED credentials do not correspond with the State fiscal year. Testimony provided by the State Board of Regents to the House Committee on Higher Education indicated that dates in current law for setting fees make it difficult to establish the fee at the appropriate level.

The Senate Committee amended the bill to incorporate the provisions regarding proprietary schools. These provisions originally had been the subject of HB 2008.

The bills were introduced by the Legislative Educational Planning Committee at the request of the State Board of Regents. A representative of the Board of Regents presented testimony in support of both bills at the Senate Committee's hearing. No opponents presented testimony to the Committee.

The Division of the Budget's fiscal note for HB 2009 states that the Board of Regents plans to set the fee for verification of GED credentials at \$7, equal to the fee currently charged for issuance and duplication of GED credentials. The Board estimates that the new fee would generate \$24,000 which would be sufficient to cover the cost of providing the new service.

The Division of the Budget's fiscal note for HB 2008 as introduced states that current fees provide funding for a half-time position to administer the proprietary school program. The fiscal note also states that a proposed new fee schedule (which was not detailed in the fiscal

note) would generate an additional \$35,000 which would permit the Board to increase the position to full-time.