

SESSION OF 2004

SUPPLEMENTAL NOTE ON SENATE BILL NO. 374

As Recommended by Senate Committee on
Education

Brief*

SB 374 would implement the Kansas School Board Development Program. Under the program, members of local boards of education would be required to earn at least ten credit hours of board development each year. The program would be administered by the State Board of Education, which would be required to prescribe and adopt standards and procedures for accrediting sponsors of courses, programs, or other activities for school board members. The State Board also would be authorized to establish reasonable fees to offset the cost of administering the program.

Credits earned by local board members would be reported to the State Board. The State Board would be authorized to grant waivers or extensions of time to complete development program requirements because of hardship, disability, or other good cause.

Background

SB 374 has been advocated by the Kansas Association of School Boards for a number of years. According to the Association, activities of local boards of education are becoming more challenging and complex and members of boards of education need training to help them deal with issues local boards face. Information presented by the Association shows that a number of other states require professional development for their board members.

SB 374 was supported by the Kansas Association of School Boards. There were no opponents to the bill in the Senate Education Committee.

*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, the State Department of Education would have to add 0.5 FTE Education Program Consultant position to administer the program, at a cost of \$38,868. Of that amount, \$27,004 would be for salaries and fringe benefits and \$11,864 would be for other operating expenditures. The bill would authorize the State Board to charge fees to cover its administrative expenses.