

SESSION OF 2004

**SUPPLEMENTAL NOTE ON HOUSE BILL NO. 2589**

As Amended by House Committee on  
Ethics and Elections

**Brief\***

HB 2589, as amended, would: (a) specifically permit electronic filing of campaign finance reports required under the Kansas Campaign Finance Act; and (b) allow a candidate for state or local office to sign required campaign treasurer's reports in lieu of the candidate's treasurer or the treasurer of the candidate's committee. The bill would become effective on July 1, 2005.

**Background**

The Kansas Campaign Finance Act (KSA Chapter 25, Article 41) requires a number of reports to be filed with the Secretary of State and, in some instances, with the relevant county election officer. Those referenced in the bill include:

- ! The name and address of a candidate's treasurer or the chairperson and treasurer of a candidate committee appointed by a candidate (KSA 25-4144).
- ! The statement of organization, and changes thereto, of a party committee or political committee which anticipates receiving contributions or making expenditures (KSA 25-4145).
- ! Treasurer's reports (KSA 25-4148).
- ! The report of dissolution of a candidate committee, party committee, or political committee or termination of a candidate's treasurer (KSA 25-4157).

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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>

! The name and address of a governor-elect's inaugural treasurer, and reports required of this treasurer (KSA 25-4186).

The above-referenced statutes require the reports be filed with the Secretary of State or the county election officer, or both. Currently, no authority exists for these reports to be filed electronically.

Representative Tom Sawyer introduced the bill. Representatives from the Secretary of State's Office and the Kansas Governmental Ethics Commission responded to questions. Currently, no system exists to provide for electronic filing of the reports, other than to accept it by electronic mail (e-mail).

The bill was amended to: (a) clarify the electronically transmitted reports, permitted by the bill, are to be filed with the Secretary of State or the county election officer as appropriate; (b) clarify the rules and regulations to deal with electronic filing are to be promulgated by the Secretary of State; (c) add the contents of HB 2520 as recommended by the House Committee on Ethics and Elections, which allows the candidate to sign the report; and (d) delay the bill's implementation until July 1, 2005.

The fiscal note on the amended bill was not available at the time of passage by the Committee.