

SESSION OF 2005

SUPPLEMENTAL NOTE ON HOUSE BILL NO. 2320

As Recommended by House Committee on
Appropriations

Brief*

HB 2320 would authorize the Kansas Supreme Court to spend money from the State General Fund or from any other special revenue fund to acquire and install a Seal of Justice in the Supreme Court Courtroom that is a replica of the Seal of Justice in the Statehouse. The bill also would authorize the Supreme Court to accept gifts and donations to pay for the Seal and would create the Judicial Branch Gifts Fund into which monetary gifts and donations received for the purpose of acquiring and installing the Seal would be credited.

Background

HB 2320 was sponsored by Representative McKinney, who testified that the Seal of Justice in the Old Supreme Court Chamber in the Statehouse is a unique part of Kansas' heritage and should be replicated in the present Supreme Court Courtroom. Because of the historical nature of the Statehouse, the Seal in the Old Supreme Court Chamber cannot be removed.

According to the Office of Judicial Administration, the cost to replicate and install the Seal is unknown. However, it is estimated that the cost might be around \$300. If so, the Judicial Branch would be able to pay for the Seal within available funds. According to the Judicial Branch's representative, while the Judicial Branch might be able to acquire a Seal without the passage of legislation, enactment of HB 2320 would be considered a clear expression of Legislative intent that a Seal be acquired and installed.

*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>