LEGISLATURE of THE STATE of KANSAS
Legislative Attorneys transforming ideas into legislation.

300 SW Tenth Avenue = Suite 24-E = Topeka, KS 66612 = (785) 296-2321

MEMORANDUM

To: House Committee on Elections

From: Mike Heim

Date: Jan. 28,2025

Subject: Summary of HB 2057

HB 2057 would change the way vacancies are filled in the offices of United States senator, the state treasurer and the commissioner of insurance. Currently, the Governor appoints a person to fill vacancies in these offices.

HB 2057 establishes a process whereby the legislature would recommend up to three names from which the Governor would pick a replacement for the appropriate office. A vacancy in either of the three offices would trigger the formation of a 14-member joint committee on vacancies. This joint committee, after one or more hearings, would be required to come up with five names, from the same political party of the person holding the office prior to the vacancy for such office, which names would be submitted to the full Legislature to pare the list down to three.