

SESSION OF 2025

SUPPLEMENTAL NOTE ON SENATE BILL NO. 104

As Recommended by Senate Committee on
Local Government, Transparency and Ethics

Brief*

SB 104 would authorize, rather than require, creation of a citizens commission on local government in every county with a population of more than 170,000 and not more than 200,000.

Background

The bill was introduced by the Senate Committee on Local Government, Transparency and Ethics at the request of Senator Bowers.

***Senate Committee on Local Government, Transparency
and Ethics***

In the Senate Committee hearing, **proponent** testimony was provided by the Shawnee County Counselor, who stated only Shawnee County is in the population size range described by the statute, although upon its enactment in 1968, it was expected to apply to Wyandotte County, whose population now is less than 170,000. The Counselor stated the purpose of the citizens commission was to assess governance in the county and recommend improvements, and fulfilling the requirement of the statute would require a 59-person citizens commission for Shawnee County.

*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 <https://klrd.gov/>

Representatives of the Kansas Association of Counties and the City of Topeka provided written-only proponent testimony.

No other testimony was provided.

The Senate Committee recommended the bill be placed on the Consent Calendar.

Fiscal Information

According to the fiscal note provided by the Division of the Budget on the bill, the Kansas Association of Counties states there could be a fiscal effect on counties because enactment of the bill would eliminate the citizens commission requirement and any associated cost, but a fiscal effect cannot be estimated.

Citizens commission; Shawnee County; local government