

SESSION OF 2025

SUPPLEMENTAL NOTE ON SENATE BILL NO. 2

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

Brief*

SB 2, as amended, would declare valid the result of the question-submitted election held May 21, 2024, approving issuance of not more than \$4.6 million in general obligation bonds for USD 200 (Greeley County), for specified improvements to its facilities.

The bill also would amend a general statute regarding bond elections to require publication of notice of a bond election on the website of any county election office of a county where the election is to be conducted only if the county election office has a website. It would require the notice to remain on the county election office website until the day after the election only if the notice was published on such a website. The bill would not amend requirements for publication of bond election notices in a newspaper of general circulation in the municipality.

The bill would be in effect upon publication in the *Kansas Register*.

Background

The bill was introduced by Senators Blew and Clifford.

*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/>

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

In the Senate Committee hearing, **proponent** testimony was provided by representatives of the Secretary of State and the Kansas Association of School Boards; the Superintendent of USD 200 (Greeley County); and the publisher of the Greeley County Republican, the county's local newspaper. Proponents stated the requirement for publication on a county election office website was not intended to require creation of a county website; information about the election had been disseminated through school district publications and the school district website, in the local newspaper, and by other means; and many elections have been validated under the doctrine of the "real will of the people" as determined by the election outcome despite irregularities with notices.

The Senate Committee amended the bill to add the amendments to a general statute regarding bond elections described above.

Fiscal Information

According to the fiscal note prepared by the Division of the Budget on the bill as introduced, the Department of Education states USD 200 (Greeley County) is not eligible for Capital Improvement State Aid. The Attorney General indicates enactment of the bill would have no fiscal effect on its operations. The Kansas Association of School Boards indicates enactment would allow USD 200 to fund various capital improvement projects.

Election; school district; bonds; legal notice publication