

REVISED
SESSION OF 2026

SUPPLEMENTAL NOTE ON SENATE BILL NO. 427

As Amended by Senate Committee on Judiciary

Brief*

SB 427, as amended, would provide for the Chairperson and Vice-chairperson of the Senate Committee on Confirmation Oversight (Committee) to review information from background checks conducted by the Kansas Bureau of Investigation (KBI) on persons appointed to state offices subject to Senate confirmation.

[*Note:* Under current law, the KBI is required to conduct background investigations of appointees to positions that are subject to Senate confirmation and to require such people to be fingerprinted.]

The bill would provide that for such appointments, background information received by the appointing authority could be disclosed to the Chairperson and Vice-chairperson of the Committee or the appointee in the office of the appointing authority upon written request. Any information received from KBI or Kansas Department of Revenue (KDOR) pursuant to the appointment would be required to be kept on file in the office of the appointing authority or another secure location under the appointing authority's control. Such information, other than conviction data, would be confidential and could not be disclosed to any other person except as otherwise allowed by the *Kansas Constitution* and the provisions of the bill.

The bill would remove a requirement in law that the Kansas Legislative Research Department (KLRD) request

*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/>

such background investigation to be conducted and that the Director of KLRD provide for the review of non-confidential information received pursuant to such investigations by the Chairperson and Vice-chairperson of the Committee.

The bill would also clarify the process for submission of information required to accompany the nomination of an appointee to a position requiring Senate confirmation and make other technical and conforming changes.

Background

The bill was introduced by the Senate Committee on Judiciary at the request of Senator Blasi.

Senate Committee on Judiciary

In the Senate Committee hearing, the Assistant Director for Research, KLRD, provided informational testimony on the bill.

Senator Blasi provided **proponent** testimony on the bill, stating legislation enacted in 2024 created unclear language regarding non-gubernatorial appointees and the responsibilities of KLRD to request certain information from the KBI.

Written-only proponent testimony was provided by Senator Sykes and a representative of the KBI.

No other testimony was provided.

The Senate Committee adopted a technical amendment to remove duplicative language regarding penalties for intentional disclosure of confidential information and to correct a drafting error.

Fiscal Information

According to the fiscal note prepared by the Division of the Budget on the bill, as introduced, Legislative Administrative Services and the KBI indicate the enactment of the bill would have no fiscal effect. Although KDOR has not formally responded to the Division of the Budget's fiscal note request, KDOR estimates that enactment of the bill would have no fiscal effect on the agency.

Senate Committee on Confirmation Oversight; Kansas Bureau of Investigation; background checks