

SESSION OF 2025

**SUPPLEMENTAL NOTE ON SENATE BILL NO. 53**

As recommended by Senate Committee on  
Judiciary

**Brief\***

SB 53 would amend law concerning the selection of attorney members of county law library (CLL) boards of trustees and fees that may be used for enhancing and facilitating the functions of the district court in the county.

***Selection of CLL Board of Trustee Members***

For CLLs located in counties other than Douglas, Johnson, or Sedgwick counties, current law provides that at least two resident attorneys be elected to two-year terms by a majority of attorneys residing in the county to serve on the CLL's board of trustees (board).

The bill would remove the requirement that such attorney members be elected, and would instead require the chief judge of the judicial district appoint these attorney members to the CLL board.

The bill would also make technical amendments to ensure consistency in statutory phrasing.

***Use of Fees***

Current law provides that CLL boards may authorize chief judges of the judicial district to use annual attorney registration fees for the purpose of facilitating and enhancing

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\*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/>

the functions of the district court of the county. The bill would specify CLL boards may also authorize the chief judge to use library fees assessed in certain court cases for this same purpose.

## **Background**

The bill was introduced by the Senate Committee on Judiciary at the request of Senator Bowers on behalf of the Kansas District Judges Association (KDJA).

### ***Senate Committee on Judiciary***

In the Senate Committee hearing, the Jefferson County Attorney and a representative of KDJA provided **proponent** testimony. Proponents stated the bill would enhance access to justice for the public, increase the quality of legal research available at CLLs, and create an easier path to fill CLL board positions.

No other testimony was provided.

## **Fiscal Information**

According to the fiscal note provided by the Division of the Budget on the bill, the Office of Judicial Administration indicates enactment of the bill would have a negligible fiscal effect on the Judicial Branch.

Any fiscal effect associated with enactment of the bill is not reflected in *The FY 2026 Governor's Budget Report*.

Law library; County; Attorneys; Board of Trustees of County Law Library