

SESSION OF 2025

SUPPLEMENTAL NOTE ON SENATE BILL NO. 99

As Amended by Senate Committee on
Government Efficiency

Brief*

SB 99, as amended, would require the head of each state agency, the Director of the Budget, and the Director of Accounts and Reports to jointly certify the number of vacant positions in each state agency that are funded from the State General Fund (SGF) and have been vacant for more than 180 calendar days as of June 30, 2025. The certified amount would be lapsed from each SGF account on July 1, 2025.

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

Background

The bill was introduced by the Senate Committee on Government Efficiency at the request of Senator Thomas.

Senate Committee on Government Efficiency

In a Senate Committee hearing on February 12, 2025, **proponent** testimony was provided by a representative of Americans for Prosperity, who indicated the bill would address prolonged vacancies of full-time positions funded by the SGF.

Written-only proponent testimony was provided by a representative of the Kansas Policy Institute.

*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/>

Opponent testimony was provided by representatives of the Board of Indigents' Defense Services and the Office of the Secretary of State, who indicated the bill, as introduced, would be challenging for attorney recruitment. According to the agencies, they have experienced difficulty filling attorney positions in recent years.

Written-only opponent testimony was provided by a private citizen and representatives of the Kansas Bar Association and the Deason Criminal Justice Reform Center.

Neutral testimony was provided by the Secretary of Administration, who highlighted unique hiring requirements that impact state agencies differently. As an example, the Secretary indicated that certain positions at the Kansas Bureau of Investigation (KBI) are waiting to be filled but remain vacant as potential hires go through an extensive background checking process.

Written-only neutral testimony was provided by a representative of the KBI.

The Senate Committee amended the bill to remove language that would have abolished the positions in addition to lapsing the funding at the beginning of fiscal year 2026.

Fiscal Information

According to the fiscal note prepared by the Division of the Budget on the bill, as introduced, enactment of the bill would result in reductions for many state agencies, including the Department of Administration (\$156,513 SGF), Department for Children and Families (\$11.0 million, including \$5.2 million SGF), and the Judicial Branch (\$372,947 SGF).

Personnel; state budget