

SESSION OF 2025

**SUPPLEMENTAL NOTE ON SENATE CONCURRENT
RESOLUTION NO. 1602**

As Amended by Senate Committee on Federal
and State Affairs

Brief*

SCR 1602, as amended, would make findings regarding illegal immigration and direct the Governor of Kansas to fully cooperate with and assist in federal actions to enforce immigration law.

The concurrent resolution would state that:

- The Legislature strongly urges the Governor of Kansas to fully cooperate with the Trump administration in enforcing immigration laws in the state of Kansas, including the deportation of illegal immigrants;
- The Legislature encourages the Governor of Kansas to use lawful authority to help secure the border, including offering assistance through the Kansas National Guard; and
- The Legislature would continue to support efforts to secure the U.S. borders and reduce illegal immigration while fostering a legal immigration system.

The resolution would also make findings concerning illegal immigration, the immigration policy priorities of the Trump administration, and the role of Congress and states in enforcing the law and securing the U.S. borders.

*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 resolution would direct the Secretary of State to send an enrolled copy of the resolution to the Governor of Kansas, members of the Kansas congressional delegation, President Donald J. Trump, and relevant federal entities to promote awareness and collaboration on the issue of immigration.

Background

The concurrent resolution was introduced by the Senate Committee on Federal and State Affairs at the request of Senator Thompson.

Senate Committee on Federal and State Affairs

In the Senate Committee hearing on January 16, 2024, **proponent** testimony was provided by the Kansas Attorney General (AG) and a representative of the Kansas Bureau of Investigation (KBI). The AG stated that illegal immigration is costly to the state, and policies proposed by the Trump administration will help enforce immigration law. He discussed several discrepancies between federal and state law as it pertains to immigration. The representative of the KBI noted an estimate of 75,000 immigrants living in Kansas illegally and discussed international drug trafficking organizations currently operating in Kansas.

Written-only proponent testimony was submitted by a representative of the America First Policy Institute.

Written-only opponent testimony was submitted by a representative of New Frontiers and a private citizen.

No other testimony was provided.

The Senate Committee amended the resolution to:

- Specify that the main priority of the Trump administration's effort to enforce immigration law is deportation of illegal immigrants who have committed crimes;
- State that the effort to address illegal immigration is bipartisan;
- Specify that these immigration policy efforts are aimed at securing the U.S. borders; and
- Change the references to "Governor Laura Kelly" to "the Governor of Kansas."

Senate Concurrent Resolution; immigration; border; deportation; Kansas National Guard