

SESSION OF 2012

**SUPPLEMENTAL NOTE ON SENATE BILL NO. 309**

As Amended by Senate Committee on Ethics  
and Elections

**Brief\***

SB 309, as amended, would add to the Campaign Finance Act requirements for a disclosure statement in any radio or television ad that clearly expresses the nomination, election, or defeat of a clearly identified candidate for state or local office. The statement would have to be spoken, and the bill would specify minimum wording for the statement. The statement could be made by a candidate, the chairperson or treasurer of a party or political committee, an individual, or another person as a representative of a corporation, group, or entity.

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

**Background**

Senator Vicki Schmidt testified in favor of the bill. A political science professor from Kansas State University testified as a proponent, and written proponent testimony was received from another social scientist. No other testimony was presented.

The Senate Committee on Ethics and Elections amended the bill to allow certain disclosure statements to use the word "approved" as an alternative to the word "sponsored."

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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 <http://www.kslegislature.org>

If the bill is enacted, violation of the disclosure statement requirements would make the entity guilty of “corrupt political advertising.” Corrupt political advertising of a state or local office is a class C misdemeanor. Civil penalties under the Campaign Finance Act also could apply.

The fiscal note prepared by the Division of the Budget states that, according to the Governmental Ethics Commission, the bill would have no fiscal effect on state revenues or expenditures.