

SESSION OF 2013

**CONFERENCE COMMITTEE REPORT BRIEF
HOUSE BILL NO. 2115**

As Agreed to April 3, 2013

Brief*

HB 2115 would amend the law concerning courts. The bill would amend provisions concerning temporary judicial employment of retired judges to remove requirements that a retired judge enter into a written agreement for such employment with the Kansas Supreme Court either before retirement or within five years after retirement and within 30 days before the judge's retirement anniversary. The bill also would extend from 12 to 15, the aggregated number of years a retired judge may enter into agreements for temporary judicial employment.

Additionally, the bill would amend the state debt setoff law to provide that the collection assistance fee for all debts owed to a court shall be paid by the debtor as an additional cost, rather than deducted from the debts owed to a court.

Conference Committee Action

The Conference Committee agreed to the Senate amendments to the bill and added the contents of HB 2114, as recommended by the House Judiciary Committee, concerning debt setoff.

*Conference committee report briefs are prepared by the Legislative Research Department and do not express legislative intent. No summary is prepared when the report is an agreement to disagree. Conference committee report briefs may be accessed on the Internet at <http://www.kslegislature.org/kldr>

Background

In the House Judiciary Committee, a representative of the Chief Justice appeared in support of the bill. No others offered testimony.

The same conferee appeared in support of the bill in the Senate Judiciary Committee. The Senate Committee extended from 12 to 15, the aggregated number of years a retired judge may enter into agreements for temporary judicial employment.

The fiscal note provided by the Division of the Budget indicates passage of the bill, as introduced, would have no fiscal effect on the Judicial Branch.

HB 2114. The state debt setoff law, found in KSA 75-6201, *et seq.*, provides tools for the collection of debts owed to the state or of support debts owed to persons who are using certain state agencies or contractors to collect such debt. An example of an available tool under this law is the setoff of a debt against a debtor's income tax refund.

In the House Judiciary Committee, a representative of the Kansas Association of District Court Clerks and Administrators appeared in support of the bill. No others offered testimony.

The fiscal note prepared by the Division of the Budget for the bill states passage would have no effect on judicial branch expenditures, but would increase revenues as it would be allowed to retain the 17.0 percent collection assistance fee that currently is deducted if a debt is sent to the Debt Setoff Program for collection. The fiscal note indicates the precise increase cannot be determined.

Courts; temporary employment of retired judges; debt setoff

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