

SESSION OF 2014

SUPPLEMENTAL NOTE ON SENATE BILL NO. 365

As Recommended by Senate Committee on
Judiciary

Brief*

SB 365 would establish that the district court judges in each judicial district would elect a district judge to serve as chief judge and would determine the procedure for such election. Similarly, the judges of the Court of Appeals would elect a judge of the Court of Appeals to serve as chief judge. The Court of Appeals would determine the procedure for such election. Under current law, the Kansas Supreme Court designates a judge in each judicial district and a judge of the Court of Appeals to serve as chief judge of the judicial district or the Court of Appeals, respectively. The bill would provide that each chief judge designated by the Supreme Court on July 1, 2014, would be allowed to serve as chief judge through January 1, 2016.

Background

The bill was introduced by the Senate Committee on Ways and Means.

In the Senate Committee on Judiciary, two district judges from the Eighteenth Judicial District spoke in favor of the bill. Two judges from the same district submitted written testimony supporting the bill. A representative of the Kansas Supreme Court testified in opposition to the bill. The chief judge of the Eighth Judicial District and a representative of the Kansas Bar Association submitted written testimony opposing the bill.

The fiscal note prepared by the Division of the Budget on the bill indicates the bill would have no fiscal effect on the expenditures or revenues of the Judicial Branch.

*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>