

House Appropriations Committee

January 19, 2016

Department of Administration

Testimony in Support of SB 241

John Milburn, Director of Legislative and Public Affairs

Good morning and thank you for the opportunity to present testimony in support of SB 241 that would make changes to the reporting process for state contracts and leases.

As you are aware, the Office of Repealer was established in 2011 by executive order with the purpose of identifying those laws, rules and regulations that were cumbersome, onerous or burdensome. The proposal that is before you for your consideration fits that definition.

In 2010, the State of Kansas moved to a new system for financial management, an effort was initiated to look at all forms, policies and procedures to make sure they were still appropriate and required by statute or regulation. This proposed legislation is a result of that review effort.

Specifically, SB 241 would remove the requirements for agencies to acquire cover sheets for certain processes related to contracts and leases that are administered through SMART, the state's financial management system.

The cover sheets that are referenced by statute in this bill for contracts, real estate leases and encumbrance authorization or adjustment are no longer used for the Office of Procurement related approvals as they have been discontinued under the SMART system. The approvals are still necessary but not obtained through the cover sheet process any longer.

Passage of this proposal would bring statutes into concert with existing practices within agencies and our financial management systems. This is a bill that was introduced in 2015 and was approved in the Senate on a 40-0 vote.

Thank you for this opportunity and I would be pleased to answer any questions.