

SESSION OF 2015

SUPPLEMENTAL NOTE ON HOUSE BILL NO. 2174

As Amended by House Committee on Education

Brief*

HB 2174, as amended, would make revisions to the Tax Credit for Low Income Students Scholarship Program Act. Revisions would include:

- Increasing the age that a child who is not enrolled at a public school would be eligible to receive a scholarship and allowing a student to remain eligible for the Program if the student would have been made ineligible by a change in a school's designation as a title I focus or priority school;
- Allowing schools that provide education to either elementary or secondary students to participate in the Program;
- Removing a provision that required a student participating in the Program to waive special education services;
- Removing a provision that allowed a scholarship granting organization to file, as an alternative to a surety bond, financial information demonstrating the ability to pay the amount of contributions expected to be received;
- Requiring scholarship payments to be made within 31 calendar days of the beginning of each semester; and

*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>

- Allowing a prorated amount of the scholarship payments to go to any public school the student enrolls in, if the student transfers to a new school during the school year.

Background

The bill was introduced by the House Committee on Federal and State Affairs. In the House Committee on Education hearing on the bill, proponents included Representative Bradford, a representative from the Kansas Policy Institute and representatives from nonpublic schools. The Kansas Association of School Boards testified in opposition to the bill. There was no neutral testimony provided.

The House Committee amended the bill to change the dates of required scholarship payments and allow students to remain qualified for the program regardless of a school's continuing designation as a title I focus or priority school.

The fiscal note on the bill, as introduced, prepared by the Division of the Budget indicates the bill would have no fiscal impact.