

SESSION OF 2015

**SUPPLEMENTAL NOTE ON SENATE BILL NO. 249**

As Amended by Senate Committee on Ways  
and Means

**Brief\***

SB 249 would add an exemption to the competitive bid process for vehicle repairs. The bill also would increase the threshold for reporting purchases made without using the competitive bid process from \$5,000 to \$10,000. (These reports, currently, are made on a quarterly basis.)

The bill also would modify the sealed bid process to raise the minimum threshold for use of sealed bids requiring three days notice on a public board from \$5,000 to \$10,000, but would leave the maximum unchanged at \$25,000. Under current law, sealed bid solicitations between \$5,000 and \$25,000 may be made by telephone, fax, or sealed bid.

The bill also would change the authority delegated to the Director of the Division of Purchases, Department of Administration, to increase the amount of purchases permissible by State agencies from \$25,000 to \$50,000. Under the bill, the Director will continue to be required to issue monthly reports to the Legislature concerning delegated authority.

**Background**

In the Senate Committee on Ways and Means, the Director of Legislative and Public Affairs, Department of Administration, testified in support of the bill. The Director indicated use of the competitive bid process for vehicle

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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>

repairs required the relocation of damaged and non-working vehicles between multiple repair shops that made the repairs economically unfeasible. The Director also indicated raising the minimum thresholds for sealed bids and delegated authority would provide the agency with additional flexibility to conduct its operations but the Department would continue to provide oversight and regulate the procurement process. There was no other testimony on the bill.

The Senate Ways and Means Committee amended the bill to clarify that the Director of Purchases may establish conditions and procedures to regulate purchases of less than \$10,000. The Committee also amended the bill to clarify that the Director of Purchases may provide delegated authority to agencies to make purchases in an amount less than \$50,000.

According to the fiscal note prepared by the Division of the Budget, the bill, as introduced, would have no fiscal effect on agency operations.