

SESSION OF 2017

SUPPLEMENTAL NOTE ON HOUSE BILL NO. 2102

As Amended by Senate Committee of the Whole

Brief*

HB 2102 would amend law relating to scheduling of county commission meetings and selection of members of the governing board of a regional system of cooperating libraries.

Scheduling of County Commission Meetings

The bill would require the board of county commissioners meet on such days and times each month as established by resolution adopted by the board. Current law requires boards of county commissioners in certain counties to meet on the first Monday of each month at the county seat. The bill would strike language differentiating meeting requirements of commissioners in counties with more than 8,000 inhabitants.

The bill would allow for a special session to be called for the transaction of any business by a call of the majority of board members and would remove language about transacting general or special business and calling special sessions as often as the interest and business of the county may demand. The bill would clarify the business transacted at any special session would be governed by that business set out in the call for the meeting.

Additionally, the bill would replace the term “chairman” with “chairperson.”

*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>

***Member Selection—Regional System of Cooperating
Libraries Governing Board***

The bill would eliminate the requirement that the Governor appoint one or more representatives to the governing board of a regional system of cooperating libraries and instead require such representative(s) be appointed by the board of county commissioners of each county that is a part of the regional system. Likewise, the bill would eliminate gubernatorial involvement in selection and certification of governing board members added when another county joins the territory of a regional system and replace it with a requirement that such selection be made by the relevant board of county commissioners with the board of each participating library (as in current law), and that the selection be certified to the State Librarian by both such entities.

Background

As it left the Senate Committee, HB 2102 addressed only the issue regarding boards of county commissioners. The Senate Committee of the Whole amended the bill to add the contents of SB 132, as amended by the Senate Committee on Ethics, Elections and Local Government, relating to the governing board members of regional systems of cooperating libraries.

HB 2102—County Commission Meeting Days

HB 2102 was introduced by the House Committee on Federal and State Affairs at the request of Representative Highland. In the House Committee hearing, Representative Highland testified in support of the bill. Written proponent testimony also was provided by a Pottawatomie County commissioner. No neutral or opponent testimony was submitted.

According to the fiscal note prepared by the Division of the Budget, the bill would not have a fiscal effect for the State. The Kansas Association of Counties indicates the bill could result in increased expenditures for counties currently not holding monthly board of commissioners meetings.

SB 132—Library Board Members

SB 132 was introduced by the Senate Committee on Ethics, Elections and Local Government at the request of Senator Fitzgerald, who testified as a proponent of the bill. Written-only proponent testimony in favor of the bill was received from one regional system board member. Two regional system board members submitted neutral testimony. The testimony generally indicated the bill was offered in an effort to align the powers of the various echelons of government and streamline the process; other comments indicated no objection to making these changes. No opponent testimony was provided.

The Senate Committee amended the bill at the request of Senator Fitzgerald to clarify its intent.

According to the fiscal note prepared by the Division of the Budget on the bill, as introduced, the State Library of Kansas indicates enactment of the bill would have no fiscal effect.