

SESSION OF 2023

SUPPLEMENTAL NOTE ON HOUSE BILL NO. 2336

As Amended by Senate Committee on
Commerce

Brief*

HB 2336, as amended, would amend law pertaining to the issuance of general obligation bonds by the board of directors of airport authorities enacted under the Surplus Property and Public Airport Authority Act.

The bill would increase the amount of general obligation bonds that may be issued by such boards without approval from \$1.0 million to \$10.0 million and require amounts in excess of \$10.0 million to be approved by the relevant board of county commissioners, rather than by general election.

The bill would also permit a board of county commissioners to approve the issuance of such bonds in an amount in excess of 1.85 percent of the assessed valuation of tangible personal property within the county.

The bill would further specify any issuance of bonds subject to approval by a board of county commissioners could be petitioned by qualified electors of the county to be submitted to a general election in the manner provided for in continuing law.

Background

The bill was introduced by the House Committee on Transportation at the request of Senator Dietrich.

*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>

***House Committee on Commerce, Labor and Economic
Development***

In the House Committee hearing, **proponent** testimony was provided by representatives of the Metropolitan Topeka Airport Authority and the Board of County Commissioners of Shawnee County. The proponents generally stated the bill would allow for necessary improvements to be made at Topeka's two airports which are not suitable for modern aircraft and lack the buildings and facilities necessary to attract businesses. The bonding authority threshold has not been modified since 1978.

Written-only proponent testimony was provided by representatives of the City of Topeka and Greater Topeka Chamber of Commerce.

No other testimony was provided.

Senate Committee on Commerce

In the Senate Committee hearing, **proponent** testimony was provided by representatives of the Metropolitan Topeka Airport Authority and Greater Topeka Chamber of Commerce. The proponents provided testimony similar to the testimony provided at the House Committee hearing.

Written-only proponent testimony was provided by representatives of the City of Topeka and the Board of County Commissioners of Shawnee County.

No other testimony was provided.

The Senate Committee amended the bill to:

- Require increases in excess of \$10.0 million to be approved by a board of county commissioners;

- Allow for issuance of bonds in amounts in excess of 1.85 percent; and
- Provide that any issuance of bonds subject to approval by a board of county commissioners could be submitted to a general election.

Fiscal Information

According to the fiscal note prepared by the Division of the Budget on the bill, as introduced, there would be no state fiscal effect.

The Kansas Association of Counties indicates the bill could have an indeterminate fiscal effect on counties with an airport authority.

Airports; bonding authority