

SESSION OF 2024

SUPPLEMENTAL NOTE ON HOUSE BILL NO. 2604

As Recommended by House Committee on
Judiciary

Brief*

HB 2604 would amend the Small Claims Procedure Act to increase the maximum dollar amount for a small claim from \$4,000 to \$10,000, exclusive of interest, costs, and any damages related to worthless checks. The bill would also make a conforming amendment in a statute concerning claims exceeding the threshold. [Note: The \$4,000 threshold in current law was enacted in 2004.]

The bill would also make technical amendments to ensure consistency in statutory phrasing.

Background

The bill was introduced by the House Committee on Judiciary at the request of Representative Gardner.

House Committee on Judiciary

In the House Committee hearing, **proponent** testimony was provided by Representative Gardner and a representative of Sigg Motors. The proponents generally stated the bill would be more consistent with small claim thresholds in other states, some of whom have adjusted their small claims limits for inflation, and the \$4,000 threshold has not been updated since 2004.

*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>

Written-only proponent testimony was provided by representatives of J-D's Automotive, Kansas Chamber, Kentucky Street Apartments, PSK Properties, Sigg Financial Services, Sigg Tire & Repair, and one private citizen, stating the bill's increase would better reflect current property valuations.

No other testimony was provided.

Fiscal Information

According to the fiscal note prepared by the Division of Budget on the bill, the Office of Judicial Administration indicates enactment of the bill would result in an undetermined fiscal effect because the number of additional cases cannot be estimated. Any fiscal effect associated with the bill is not reflected in *The FY 2025 Governor's Budget Report*.

Judiciary; civil procedure; small claims