

SESSION OF 2017

SUPPLEMENTAL NOTE ON SENATE BILL NO. 226

As Recommended by Senate Committee on
Federal and State Affairs

Brief*

SB 226 would require the State Librarian to be appointed by the Legislative Coordinating Council (LCC), which would have the authority to determine the salary of the State Librarian and have the ability to remove the State Librarian from office by a vote of five members of the LCC taken at any regular LCC meeting.

The bill would require the State Librarian and all State Library employees to be in the unclassified service and the State Librarian would be required to appoint assistants and employees, and determine salaries, as authorized and approved by the LCC. The State Librarian and any assistants specified by the LCC would be allowed to receive expenses and allowances for in-state and out-of-state travel.

The bill would declare the State Librarian to have complete control of the State Library, including all extension library services and reader services for the blind and other persons with a disability, and require the State Librarian to employ a Director of Reference to administer laws providing for the State Library and reference services.

In addition, on the effective date of the bill, the bill would abolish the current State Library of Kansas Board and create the new State Library of Kansas Board, consisting of 14 members appointed by the LCC, rather than by the Governor.

*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>

The bill would be in effect upon publication in the *Kansas Register*.

Background

The bill was introduced by the Senate Committee on Ways and Means. In the Senate Committee on Federal and State Affairs hearing, Senator Hensley testified in favor of the bill, stating the State Library is currently under the Executive Branch, but the majority of the services it provides is to the Kansas Legislature. The State Librarian provided neutral testimony on the bill and provided the Committee with a list of the services the State Library provides to the Legislature. No other testimony was provided.

According to the fiscal note prepared by the Division of the Budget, the LCC estimates enactment of the bill would have no fiscal effect on the operating costs of the State Library, and the State Library of Kansas Board would be paid from the existing State Library appropriations.