

SESSION OF 2020

SUPPLEMENTAL NOTE ON HOUSE BILL NO. 2449

As Recommended by House Committee on
Judiciary

Brief*

HB 2449 would amend the statute governing membership of the State Board of Indigents' Defense Services (BIDS) to raise the population threshold from 100,000 to 115,000 for counties to automatically qualify for a lawyer member of BIDS, increase from five to six the number of lawyer members of BIDS, and decrease from four to three the number of non-lawyer members of BIDS. The bill also would 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 Patton.

In the House Committee hearing, the Executive Director of BIDS testified in support of the bill, stating the current statutory membership requirements cannot be satisfied due to Douglas County becoming qualified for a lawyer member. (*Note:* In addition to the county, lawyer, and non-lawyer membership requirements, the statute also contains congressional district and political party membership requirements, some of which intersect with each other.) The Executive Director stated the bill would allow Douglas County to receive its lawyer member and for all statutory membership requirements to be satisfied, while raising the threshold sufficiently to allow BIDS to further consider any needed

*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>

changes to its statutory membership requirements before another county crosses the population threshold.

No other testimony was provided.

According to the fiscal note prepared by the Division of the Budget on the bill, BIDS indicates enactment of the bill would have no fiscal impact on its operations. Any fiscal effect associated with enactment of the bill is not reflected in *The FY 2021 Governor's Budget Report*.