

SESSION OF 2023

SUPPLEMENTAL NOTE ON HOUSE BILL NO. 2088

As Recommended by House Committee on
Veterans and Military

Brief*

HB 2088 would provide for the development of a mural in the Statehouse honoring the 1st Kansas (Colored) Voluntary Infantry Regiment and establish a fund for such purpose.

The bill would direct the Capitol Preservation Committee to develop and approve a mural in the Statehouse honoring the Regiment. The bill would also establish a fund in the State Treasury for creation and installation of the mural. The bill would authorize the Secretary of Administration to receive and expend moneys from any grants, gifts, contributions, or bequests made for the purpose of financing the creation and installation of the mural. The bill states no public funds would be expended for the purposes of creating or installing the mural.

Current law directs the Kansas State Historical Society and the Department of Administration to develop the mural; because that statute was enacted, the Legislature established the Capitol Preservation Committee to oversee the type, display, and location of artistic displays in the Capitol and on the Capitol's grounds that are historically accurate or have historical significance.

*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>

Background

The bill was introduced by the House Committee on Veterans and Military at the request of Representative Winn.

[*Note:* The bill is identical to the provisions of 2023 SB 39, which was passed by the Senate Committee on Federal and State Affairs on January 31, 2023.]

House Committee on Veterans and Military

In the House Committee hearing on January 26, 2023, **proponent** testimony was provided by Representative Winn, a representative of the Kansas State Historical Society, and two private citizens. The proponents stated that a mural honoring the 1st Kansas (Colored) Voluntary Infantry Regiment would complement the Capitol's existing John Steuart Curry's mural "Tragic Prelude" by honoring the first Black regiment that fought in the Civil War and bringing recognition to Kansas' role in preserving the Union. No other testimony was provided.

Fiscal Information

According to the fiscal note prepared by the Division of the Budget on the bill, the Department of Administration indicates enactment of the bill would not have a fiscal effect on agency operations because the mural would be constructed with funding from gifts, grants, or contributions.

Kansas Statehouse; state capitol; mural; capitol preservation; Capitol Preservation Committee