

SESSION OF 2011

**SUPPLEMENTAL NOTE ON
SUBSTITUTE FOR SENATE BILL NO. 127**

As Recommended by Senate Committee on
Ethics and Elections

Brief*

Sub. for SB 127 would, for a school district, city officer, or community college trustee office, require a primary election only if more than three candidates would be on the ballot. It also would require that the names of the top two vote-getters in the primary election be placed onto the ballot for the general election. If the election-at-large method is used, the bill would require a primary election only if the number of candidates is more than three times the number to be elected, and the number on the general election ballot would equal twice the number to be elected.

Background

The Allen County Clerk and Election Official, representing the Kansas County Clerks and Election Officials Association, and the Crawford County Clerk and Election Official testified in favor of the bill. A representative of the Secretary of State also testified in its support, and a representative of the League of Kansas Municipalities submitted written proponent testimony. No neutral or opposing testimony was presented.

The Senate Committee on Ethics and Elections recommended a substitute bill that incorporates extensive technical changes to the original bill but does not change its intent.

*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>

According to the fiscal note prepared by the Division of the Budget, the Secretary of State said the bill would have no effect on state revenues or expenditures and could lead to savings for local governments, but the amount of any savings could not be estimated because the numbers of candidates vary from year to year.