

SESSION OF 2015

SUPPLEMENTAL NOTE ON HOUSE BILL NO. 2395

As Amended by Senate Committee on Ways
and Means

Brief*

HB 2395, as amended, would increase the threshold for architectural services costs to \$1.0 million and for engineering or land surveying services to \$675,000 before the Secretary of Administration would be required to convene a meeting of the State Building Advisory Commission (Commission) to prepare a list of no fewer than three and no more than five qualified firms to be considered for the project. Under current law, the Commission must convene and prepare a list when the project costs exceed either \$750,000 for architectural services or \$500,000 for engineering or land surveying services.

Background

Established in 1978, the Commission consists of seven members, which includes two *ex officio* members and five members appointed by the Governor. The Commission evaluates and selects firms to be interviewed by state agencies for capital improvement projects. It collects and maintains current data on construction costs. The Commission establishes criteria and procedures to evaluate the qualifications and performances of contractors providing architectural, engineering, or construction services. It develops and adopts standards for the inspection and acceptance of capital improvement projects. Capital improvement project requests for state agencies are reviewed

*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>

annually, and an advice report is filed with the Director of the Budget.

Proponent testimony during the House Committee on Commerce, Labor and Economic Development hearing was provided by representatives of the American Council of Engineering Companies and the Kansas Board of Regents. The proponents stated the bill would reduce the time and resources expended for advertising, reviewing qualifications, interviewing, and selecting design professionals. There was no opponent or neutral testimony.

The House Committee amended the bill, as introduced, by deleting section 2, which would have repealed the requirement for the Commission to publish meeting notices in the *Kansas Register*.

Proponent testimony during the Senate Committee on Ways and Means hearing was provided by representatives of the American Council of Engineering Companies and the Kansas Board of Regents. The Proponents stated the bill would reduce the time and resources expended for advertising, reviewing qualifications, interviewing, and selecting design professionals. There was no opponent or neutral testimony.

The Senate Committee amended the bill to reduce the threshold for convening a meeting of the State Building Advisory Commission from \$1.0 million to \$675,000 in the case of engineering or land surveying services. The bill, as introduced, would have doubled the threshold for these services from \$500,000 to \$1.0 million.

According to the fiscal note prepared by the Division of the Budget, in consultation with the Department of Administration and the Kansas Board of Regents, the bill as introduced would have no fiscal effect on agency operations. The Board cannot estimate a fiscal effect or any administrative savings by state universities.