

UPDATED
SESSION OF 2019

SUPPLEMENTAL NOTE ON SENATE BILL NO. 105

As Recommended by House Committee on
Elections

Brief*

SB 105 would authorize a city to determine the start date of a regular term of office for a city officer by resolution of the city. In law regarding city elections, the bill would require the start date be on or after December 1 following certification of the election and no later than the second Monday in January following certification of the election. If the city does not establish an alternative date, the bill would specify such term would begin on the second Monday in January.

In law regarding terms of office, the bill would add a municipal officer to those whose regular terms of office (all state, district, county, and township officers, under current law) shall begin on the second Monday in January except as otherwise provided by law.

Background

The bill was introduced by the Senate Committee on Ethics, Elections and Local Government at the request of Senator Pettey.

At the Senate Committee hearing, Senator Pettey and a representative of the League of Kansas Municipalities (LKM) provided proponent testimony. Written-only proponent testimony was provided by the Mayor of Lawrence, the Mayor

*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>

of Manhattan, and the City of Overland Park. Proponents stated the change from holding municipal elections in the fall, rather than the spring, had created a relatively long “lame duck” period that had created challenges for cities and the bill would provide flexibility for individual cities to determine the optimal date for city officers to take office. [Note: Municipal elections were first held in Fall 2017.] No neutral or opponent testimony was provided.

The Senate Committee recommended the bill be placed on the Consent Calendar.

In the House Committee on Elections hearing, a representative from LKM testified in favor of the bill. Written-only proponent testimony was provided by the Mayor of Lawrence. No other testimony was provided.

The House Committee recommended the bill be placed on the Consent Calendar.

According to the fiscal note prepared by the Division of the Budget, enactment of the bill would have no fiscal effect on the Office of the Secretary of State; it could accomplish minor changes to training and education materials within existing resources. The Kansas Association of Counties indicated the bill would have no fiscal effect on Kansas counties.