

SESSION OF 2022

SUPPLEMENTAL NOTE ON SENATE BILL NO. 427

As Amended by Senate Committee on
Transparency and Ethics

Brief*

SB 427, as amended, would make several changes to the Campaign Finance Act (Act).

The bill would change certain dates that reports are due from each treasurer for a candidate for state office, from January 10 to the Tuesday following the second Monday in January.

The bill would clarify that “paid for” attributions or “sponsored by” statements must be included in electronic political advertisements or communications, and the bill would specify such statements must be clear and conspicuous. It would remove a requirement the statement be at the end of the item.

The bill would extend the time frame for a hearing by the Kansas Governmental Ethics Commission (Commission) upon a finding of probable cause of violation of the Act from within 30 days to within 90 days.

The bill would also authorize the Commission to request assistance from federal officers during an investigation under the Act and such federal officers to access Commission records under those circumstances.

The bill would amend the exception to the campaign finance report requirements for candidates who file an affidavit prior to the primary election stating an intent not to

*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>

incur expenses or receive contributions in excess of a certain amount, to change the limit from \$500 to \$1,000.

[*Note:* Law not amended by the bill, KSA 2021 Supp. 25-4173, includes a limit of \$1,000 for this affidavit amount.]

The bill would make technical changes.

Background

The bill was introduced by the Senate Committee on Transparency and Ethics at the request of the Executive Director of the Commission.

[*Note:* The bill contains provisions similar to those of HB 2577.]

Senate Committee on Transparency and Ethics

In the Senate Committee hearing, **proponent** testimony was provided by the Executive Director of the Commission. The proponent stated the bill would make technical and procedural amendments to the Act and would align the Act with the Commission's day-to-day practices.

No other testimony was provided.

The Senate Committee amended the bill to change when candidates for state office must file campaign finance reports with the Secretary of State's Office, from January 10 to the Tuesday following the second Monday in January.

Fiscal Information

According to the fiscal note prepared by the Division of the Budget on the bill, as introduced, the Commission and the Office of the Secretary of State indicate enactment of the bill would not have a fiscal effect on the operations of either agency.

Campaign Finance Act; Governmental Ethics Commission; campaign finance; political advertising