

SESSION OF 2003

SUPPLEMENTAL NOTE ON SENATE BILL NO. 55

As Amended by House Committee on
Education

Brief*

SB 55 would require that school district boards of education publish a resolution each July indicating the day of the week and the week of the month that board meetings will be held for the upcoming year. In addition, the resolution shall specify alternative meeting dates if the regular meeting date falls on a legal holiday or holiday specified by the board. When an emergency situation occurs, the board shall notify the public 24 hours in advance of the rescheduled meeting.

Background

SB 55 was requested by the president of the Lawrence School Board (USD 497) and supported in the Senate Education Committee by the Kansas Association of School Boards. According to proponents, the statute, as written, is confusing. Passage of SB 55 still would require boards of education to publish in July a schedule of meeting dates for the upcoming year.

Written testimony in opposition to the bill was submitted to the Senate Committee by Kansas-National Education Association, in which it was argued that holding board meetings on the same day of the same week each month creates a regular schedule that allows the public to know when board meetings will be.

The House Committee on Education returned the requirement that the board publish the day of the week and the week of the month that the meeting will be held. In addition, the resolution will specify the alternative date when the regular meeting would fall on a holiday and the bill now provides for emergency cancellations, such as inclement weather.

*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/kldr>

Passage of SB 55 would have no fiscal impact on the state.