

SESSION OF 2005

**SUPPLEMENTAL NOTE ON SENATE BILL NO. 107**

As Amended by Senate Committee on  
Commerce

**Brief\***

SB 107, as amended, would prohibit an employer's account under employment security law from being charged unemployment benefits if the employee is a part-time employee, defined as less than 20 hours per week or less than \$2,500 in base period wages.

**Background**

The representative of the Kansas Association of School Boards explained in some recent unemployment decisions from administrative law judges, the administrative law judge has separated the question of qualifications for benefits from the question of whether an employer's account should be charged. As a result, schools are being charged for unemployment benefits in these cases unless an employee is fired for engaging in misconduct. This bill would have no effect on a full time employee receiving benefits. The employee's full-time employer's account would be charged if the employee is terminated; however, if the employee also was a Rule 10 coach for a school district, the school district account would not be charged with the termination by the full-time employer. A representative of the Kansas Chamber of Commerce testified as a proponent for the bill. The Senate Committee amended the bill with new language recommended by the Kansas Association of School Boards working with the Kansas Department of Labor.

The fiscal note indicates that the Department of Labor would need to fill its vacant Program Specialist II FTE position at a cost of \$45,000 with enactment of this bill. In addition, the agency would also incur programming costs and other technology system costs; however, the agency is unable to estimate these additional costs.

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\*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>