

SESSION OF 2023

SUPPLEMENTAL NOTE ON HOUSE BILL NO. 2132

As Amended by House Committee on Education

Brief*

HB 2132, as amended, would amend the Kansas Promise Scholarship Act by expanding programs eligible for the scholarship and clarifying how scholarship amounts are calculated based upon whether the eligible program is being offered by a public two-year college or private college.

Eligible Fields of Study, Promise-eligible Programs

The bill would add both elementary and secondary education programs to the fields of study currently eligible to receive scholarships under the Act. The current fields of study include the following:

- Information technology and security;
- Mental and physical health care;
- Advanced manufacturing and building trades; or
- Early childhood education.

Designation of Additional Fields of Study, Local Employment Needs

The bill would also update the eligible fields of study that a college could choose to add to the other scholarship-eligible fields of study (e.g., agriculture, education, and training). The

*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>

bill would add the term “transportation” to the field of study currently listed as “distribution and logistics.”

Scholarship Award Amount Determination

The bill would also clarify that for students enrolled in a promise eligible program at a private college that the scholarship amount would be:

The **aggregate amount** of tuition, mandatory fees, and the cost of books and materials for the academic year in which the student is enrolled and receiving the scholarship **minus** the **aggregate amount** of all other aid awarded to the student.

[*Note:* The bill would maintain the requirement that the scholarship award could not exceed the average cost of tuition, required fees, and the cost of books and required materials for the same program at an eligible public college.]

The bill would also make clarifying technical changes.

Background

The bill was introduced by the House Committee on Appropriations at the request of Representative Hoffman.

House Committee on Education

In the House Committee hearing, **proponent** testimony was provided by representatives of Cowley College, Kansas Association of Community College Trustees, and State Board of Regents. The proponents generally noted that the addition of elementary and secondary education would allow the Act to assist in addressing the teacher shortage by utilizing agreements with universities to allow students to transfer following their two years of study to complete their degrees in education. Additionally, the inclusion of “transportation” to the

existing optional distribution and logistics field would make transportation programs (e.g., commercial truck driving) eligible for students to receive a scholarship award. Additional clarifying changes, including more consistent language in an award calculation, were also highlighted.

Written-only proponent testimony was provided by representatives of the Kansas Association of School Boards, Kansas Independent College Association, Kansas National Education Association, and State Board of Education.

The House Committee amended the bill to make clarifying changes requested by the State Board of Regents and to change the effective date of the bill from publication in the *Kansas Register* to publication in the statute book.

Fiscal Information

According to the fiscal note prepared by the Division of the Budget on the bill, as introduced, the State Board of Regents indicates the bill would increase costs due to the additional time required to administer the Act but that the additional costs would be negligible and could be accomplished within existing resources. Any fiscal effect from enactment of the bill is not reflected in *The FY 2024 Governor's Budget Report*.

Education; postsecondary; Kansas Board of Regents; community colleges; technical colleges; private colleges; Kansas Promise Scholarship Act