

SESSION OF 2017

SUPPLEMENTAL NOTE ON SENATE BILL NO. 166

As Recommended by Senate Committee on
Education

Brief*

SB 166 would exempt Cleveland University in Kansas City from the Kansas Private and Out-of-State Postsecondary Education Institution Act (the Act).

Background

The bill was introduced at the request of the Kansas Independent College Association (KICA). At the Senate Committee on Education hearing, a representative of the KICA stated the Act provides a set of rules and conditions to ensure high-quality educational products are offered to Kansans that meet the standards expected of the public and non-profit institutions located within the State. It requires institutions to seek approval from the Kansas Board of Regents for nearly every change to their academic programs and to pay fees for each program review and approval. Cleveland University is the only 1 of the 19 members of the KICA that is not exempt from the Act. Among other requirements, to be a member of the KICA, an institution must be a not-for-profit institution, offer at least one undergraduate degree program, have received full regional accreditation from the Higher Learning Commission, and maintain open admission policies in accordance with Kansas law. The president of Cleveland University also appeared in support of the bill and provided history for the University, which was founded in Missouri, and because of its historical charter is subject to the Act. The University's current

*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>

operations are based solely in Kansas, however. According to the University president, the exemption would provide a direct fix to this anomalous situation. No other testimony was provided.

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

According to the fiscal note provided by the Division of the Budget, the Kansas Board of Regents indicates it would lose an estimated \$10,060 in renewal application fees it expects to collect from the University under existing provisions. Any fiscal effect associated with enactment of the bill is not reflected in *The FY 2018 Governor's Budget Report*.