

SESSION OF 2021

SUPPLEMENTAL NOTE ON SENATE BILL NO. 53

As Recommended by Senate Committee on
Local Government

Brief*

SB 53 would establish the composition of a charter commission for Sedgwick County. Commission membership would be composed as follows:

- Three members each would be appointed by the members of the Senate and the members of the House of Representatives who are residents of Sedgwick County; the bill would require each of these appointed members to be from a different senatorial district;
- Two members each would be appointed by the Sedgwick County Republican and Democratic central committees;
- Eight members would be appointed by the Sedgwick County Board of County Commissioners. The bill would require one appointed member from each county commission district with the remaining representing the county at-large;
- Two members would be appointed by the Wichita Regional Chamber of Commerce;
- Three members would be appointed from Sedgwick County cities; one of those would be the mayor of Wichita or a designee and two would be

*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>

either mayors or their designees appointed by the Sedgwick County Association of Cities; and

- Two members would be appointed by the Metropolitan Area Planning Commission and must reside in the unincorporated areas of Sedgwick County.

The bill would require all members to be appointed within 21 days after establishment of the charter commission. Members of the commission may not hold an elective state or county office.

Background

The Senate Committee on Ways and Means introduced the bill at the request of Senator McGinn.

[*Note:* The bill is identical to 2020 SB 406, as amended and passed by the Senate.]

Senate Committee on Local Government

In the Senate Committee hearing, the chair *pro tem* of the Sedgwick County Commission provided **proponent** testimony. She noted Sedgwick County was designated as an urban county in 2018. She stated the bill is necessary because current statutes allow a charter commission for an urban county to be composed only of Johnson County residents and that, if the Sedgwick County Commission decided to establish a commission, that charter commission should be composed of Sedgwick County residents. No other testimony was provided.

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

Fiscal Information

According to the fiscal note prepared by the Division of the Budget on the bill, the Kansas Association of Counties reported enactment of the bill would have an impact on the budget of Sedgwick County but it was unable to provide an estimated cost.

Local government; Sedgwick County; charter commission