

SESSION OF 2024

SUPPLEMENTAL NOTE ON HOUSE BILL NO. 2615

As Amended by House Committee of the Whole

Brief*

HB 2615, as amended, would, among other things, remove the State Printer from the session law publication process, effectively allowing the Secretary of State to work with another vendor. The bill would also eliminate the automatic delivery of the *Kansas Statutes Annotated* and all supplements to certain elected officials, officers, and appointed officials. Moreover, the bill would clarify the digital publication process for Kansas rules and regulations, and allow the Secretary of State to recoup costs for maintaining and storing rules and regulations digitally within a searchable database.

Printing Requirement Changes

The bill would remove references to the State Printer from requirements to publish the session laws.

Distribution Requirement Changes

The bill would also allow the Secretary of State to deliver printed and bound sets of the *Kansas Statutes Annotated* to the following upon request instead of automatically:

- Each member of the Legislature;
- Governor;
- Lieutenant Governor; and
- Attorney General.

*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>

The bill would also require the Secretary of State to deliver supplements to the *Kansas Statutes Annotated* to all state officers, county officers, and other department officers only upon their request.

The bill would require the Secretary of State to deliver a set of supplements to each returning member of the Legislature, upon request. The bill would also require the Secretary of State to contact each returning member via email to their legislative email account, a total of three times if no previous response, seeking to determine whether a member would like to receive a set of the *Kansas Statutes Annotated* supplements.

Duties Regarding Publication of Rules and Regulations

The bill would remove requirements for the State Rules and Regulations Board to determine the rules and regulations to be published in the *Kansas Administrative Regulations* and supplements to it and revoke a statute requiring the Board to meet for that purpose.

The bill would also remove requirements for the Secretary of State to annually publish the rules and regulations or a supplement; to edit, prepare, and publish replacement volumes of the *Kansas Administrative Regulations*; and publish and make available annual supplements to the *Kansas Administrative Regulations*.

Digital Publication and Maintenance of Kansas Rules and Regulations

The bill would also eliminate references to purchases of annual supplements and volumes of the *Kansas Administrative Regulations* within the act, and require the Secretary of State to maintain current Kansas administrative rules and regulations in an existing searchable database. The

bill would also allow the Secretary of State to recover costs associated with maintaining the referenced database.

Background

The bill was introduced by the House Committee on Elections at the request of a representative of the Kansas Secretary of State.

House Committee on Legislative Modernization

In the House Committee hearing on February 7, 2024, a representative of the Office of the Secretary of State provided **proponent** testimony. The representative stated the bill would reduce waste by eliminating the requirement to print a set number of bound volumes, and would help better align the law with the current practice of digitally publishing Kansas rules and regulations.

No other testimony was provided.

House Committee of the Whole

The House Committee of the Whole amended the bill to clarify provisions for delivery of a set of supplements to the *Kansas Statutes Annotated* to members of the Legislature upon request and to require the Secretary of State to email legislators to determine whether the member is requesting a set.

Fiscal Information

According to the fiscal note prepared by the Division of the Budget on the bill, as introduced, the Secretary of State indicates enactment of the bill would decrease fee fund expenditures by \$48,000 in FY 2025 and \$50,500 in FY 2026 as a result of no longer printing *Kansas Administrative*

Regulations. Additionally, the Secretary of State indicates decreased revenues of \$35,000 in FY 2025 and \$37,500 in FY 2026 to the Information Services Fee Fund resulting from eliminating sale of hard copies of rules and regulations.

The Office of Revisor of Statutes indicates enactment of the bill would reduce agency expenditures by \$10,000 from the State General Fund.

The Office of the Attorney General indicates enactment of the bill would have no fiscal impact on the agency.

The Department of Administration indicates fee fund revenues would decrease by \$300,000 in FY 2025 and \$300,00 in FY 2026 as a result of removing the State Printer from the session law publication process.

Any fiscal effect associated with enactment of the bill is not reflected in *The FY 2025 Governor's Budget Report*.

Legislature; Kansas Statutes; Session Laws; Supplements; printing; rules and regulations; rules; regulations