

SESSION OF 2011

SUPPLEMENTAL NOTE ON SENATE BILL NO. 17

As Recommended by Senate Committee on
Ethics and Elections

Brief*

SB 17 would increase the campaign contribution limit for State Board of Education candidates from \$500 to \$1,000 for each primary or general election. This limit would apply to these types of contributions:

- The aggregate amount contributed to a candidate, the candidate's candidate committee, and all party committees and political committees dedicated to the candidate's campaign, by any political committee or any person except a party committee, the candidate, or the candidate's spouse.
- The amount contributed by each individual party committee of the same political party other than a national party committee to any candidate for office, for any primary election at which two or more candidates are seeking the party's nomination.

Background

Campaign contribution limits for other offices, from the same types of contributions, are these:

- \$2,000 for statewide office;
- \$1,000 for state senator; and

*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>

- \$500 for a candidate for the House of Representatives, district judge, district magistrate judge, district attorney, or local office.

Senator Steve Abrams, a former member of the State Board of Education, and the legislative coordinator for the State Board of Education testified in support of the bill. They said that each State Board district is four times the size of a State Senate district, and candidates experience difficulty raising money for their campaigns. No opponents spoke to the bill.

According to the fiscal note prepared by the Division of the Budget, SB 17 would have no fiscal effect on state revenues or expenditures.