

SESSION OF 2016

SUPPLEMENTAL NOTE ON HOUSE BILL NO. 2532

As Amended by House Committee of the Whole

Brief*

HB 2532, as amended, would add sufficient “mathematic” and “scientific” skills and “sufficient knowledge of financial systems to enable the student to make informed choices” to a list of capacities designed by the State Board of Education to be provided to every child in any accredited school in Kansas.

In addition, the bill would require the Kansas State Board of Education (State Board) to develop state curriculum standards for ethnic studies for grades 7 through 12. “Ethnic studies” would be limited to the experiences of African Americans, Asian Americans, Hispanics, Latinos, and Native Americans. The standards would be developed within existing history, social studies, or civics curriculum. The bill would require the State Board to encourage school districts to select textbooks and supplemental materials containing substantive information on ethnic studies.

Background

The bill was introduced by the House Committee on Education. Testifying as proponents of the bill at the House Committee hearing on the bill were Representative Highland and representatives of the Kansas National Education Association, Kansas Association of School Boards, and Education Management Consultants. Written proponent testimony was offered by a representative of the Kansas

*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>

Chamber of Commerce and the State Treasurer. There was no opponent or neutral testimony.

The House Committee of the Whole added “mathematic” and “scientific” skills to the capacities designed by the State Board of Education to be provided to every child in any accredited school in Kansas. Also added was a majority of the content of HB 2207, regarding ethnic studies, as amended by the House Education Committee, except for the portion dealing with the exclusion of information on social justice remedies.

The Division of the Budget fiscal note indicates enactment of the bill would have no effect on state aid to school districts and any costs to implement the bill would be borne by school districts. There was no fiscal note related to the amended bill.