

SESSION OF 2018

SUPPLEMENTAL NOTE ON HOUSE BILL NO. 2498

As Recommended by House Committee on
Federal and State Affairs

Brief*

HB 2498 would prohibit state agencies and municipalities from prohibiting any individual from wearing tribal regalia or objects of cultural significance at public events.

The bill would define the following terms:

- “Municipality” would mean any county, township, city, school district, or other political or taxing subdivision of the state, or any agency, authority, institution, or other instrumentality thereof;
- “Public event” would mean an event held or sponsored by a state agency or municipality, including, but not limited to, an award ceremony, a graduation ceremony, or a meeting of a governing body; and
- “State agency” would mean the State of Kansas and any department or branch of state government, or any agency, authority, institution, or other instrumentality thereof.

The bill would require the Secretary of State to send a copy of the bill to each tribal government on the four reservations in Kansas on the effective date of the bill.

*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 state the Kansas Legislature declares the purpose of the bill is to help further the State's recognition of the distinct and unique cultural heritage of Native Americans and the State's commitment to preserving Native Americans' cultural integrity.

The bill would be in effect upon publication in the *Kansas Register*.

Background

The bill was introduced by Representative Victors. At the House Committee on Federal and State Affairs hearing, Representatives Victors and Osterman, the Chairwoman of the Prairie Band Pottawatomie Nation, and three private citizens testified in favor of the bill.

No other testimony was provided.

According to the fiscal note provided by the Division of the Budget, the Secretary of State has indicated enactment of the bill would have no fiscal effect on the agency.