

SESSION OF 2021

SUPPLEMENTAL NOTE ON HOUSE BILL NO. 2218

As Recommended by House Committee on
Insurance and Pensions

Brief*

HB 2218 would modify the membership requirements for the Kansas State Employees Health Care Commission (Commission). The bill would change the requirements of two of the members appointed by the Governor in the following manner:

- One member would be a current state employee who is currently enrolled in the state health care benefits program group health insurance medical plan.
 - Under current law this member is a current state employee in the classified service under the Kansas Civil Service Act. There is no requirement regarding health plan participation; and
- One member would be a person retired from a position in the state service who is currently enrolled in the state health care benefits program group health insurance medical plan.
 - Under current law this member is a person who retired from a position in the classified service under the Kansas Civil Service Act. There is no requirement regarding health plan participation.

*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 Commission is composed of five members; its other members include the Commissioner of Insurance, the Secretary of Administration, and a representative of the general public who is appointed by the Governor.

Background

The bill was introduced by Representative Bergquist. The bill was referred to the House Committee on Insurance and Pensions.

House Committee on Insurance and Pensions

In the House Committee hearing, the president of the Employee Advisory Committee (a representative group of active state and retired employees receiving from and providing input to the Commission pursuant to KSA 75-6510) provided **proponent** testimony, indicating the bill will realign the statutory requirements with the modern-day State workforce. The conferee explained most state employees are now unclassified because of recent amendments to the Kansas Civil Service Act to allow conversion of several classified positions. She also noted the new requirement of enrollment in a state group medical plan would ensure appointed members bring their individual experiences with the health plans to the Commission. In her oral comments, the conferee indicated the amendments to the Commission member requirements had unanimous support from the Commission.

Written-only **proponent** testimony was provided by a representative of the Kansas Organization of State Employees.

No neutral or **opponent** testimony was provided.

Fiscal Information

According to the fiscal note prepared by the Division of the Budget, the Department of Administration indicates enactment of the bill would have no fiscal effect on agency operations.

Boards, committees, and commissions; State Employees Health Care Commission; membership