

SESSION OF 2019

SUPPLEMENTAL NOTE ON SENATE BILL NO. 20

As Amended by Senate Committee on Judiciary

Brief*

SB 20, as amended, would make permanent the judicial branch surcharge the Legislature reauthorized in 2017 HB 2041 to fund non-judicial personnel. Current law allows the Judicial Branch to impose this additional charge on various docket fees to fund the costs of non-judicial personnel until June 30, 2019. The bill also would make technical changes by removing outdated statutory references and effective dates.

Background

The bill was introduced by the Senate Committee on Judiciary at the request of the Judicial Branch. As introduced, the bill would have extended the surcharge for an additional two years, through June 30, 2021.

In the Senate Committee hearing, a representative of the Judicial Branch testified in support of the bill, and the Kansas District Judges Association and the Kansas Bar Association submitted written-only testimony in support of the bill. No other testimony was provided.

The Senate Committee amended the bill to remove the sunset dates and make the surcharge permanent.

According to the fiscal note prepared by the Division of the Budget on the bill as introduced, the Office of Judicial Administration indicates its budget would be reduced by \$9.0

*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>

million in FY 2020 if the bill is not enacted. Expenditures from the surcharge revenues are reflected in *The FY 2020 Governor's Budget Report*, with estimated revenues to the Judicial Branch Docket Fee Fund of \$9.0 million in FY 2020.