

SESSION OF 2022

**SUPPLEMENTAL NOTE ON SENATE BILL NO. 429**

As Amended by Senate Committee on  
Transparency and Ethics

**Brief\***

SB 429, as amended, would require treasurers for candidates for state offices to file reports electronically with the Secretary of State in a form as prescribed by the Secretary of State. The bill would permit such candidates to request an exemption from the electronic filing requirement. The bill would permit the Executive Director of the Kansas Governmental Ethics Commission (Commission) to grant such an exemption for cause.

The bill would change certain dates that reports are due from each treasurer for a candidate for state office, from January 10 to the Tuesday following the second Monday in January.

The bill would take effect January 1, 2026.

**Background**

The bill was introduced by the Senate Committee on Transparency and Ethics at the request of the Executive Director of the Commission.

[*Note:* The bill contains provisions similar to those of HB 2579.]

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\*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>

### ***Senate Committee on Transparency and Ethics***

In the Senate Committee hearing, the Executive Director of the Commission provided **proponent** testimony, stating the the Commission had recommended electronic filing for multiple years as a way to reduce the number of errors on campaign finance reports, because such reports could be analyzed automatically before submission, and to increase agency efficiency.

A representative of the Office of the Secretary of State also provided proponent testimony.

No other testimony was provided.

The Senate Committee amended the bill to:

- Clarify the electronically filed reports must be in a form prescribed by the Secretary of State;
- Change when candidates for state office must file campaign finance reports with the Secretary of State's Office, from January 10 to the Tuesday following the second Monday in January in the year after an election year and for any year in which no election is held; and
- Make the bill effective January 1, 2026.

### **Fiscal Information**

According to the fiscal note prepared by the Division of the Budget on the bill, as introduced, the Commission estimates enactment of the bill would result in cost savings for candidates who file electronically, as the agency would not require paper copies of expenditure reports and would likely require fewer Errors and Omissions Reports. The agency expects savings from enactment of the bill would continue to increase over time, as printing and mailing reports would

become largely unnecessary, and the electronic filing system would adjust to catch more errors at the time of filing. The Office of the Secretary of State indicates enactment of the bill would not have a fiscal effect on agency operations.

Any fiscal effect associated with enactment of the bill is not reflected in *The FY 2023 Governor's Budget Report*.

Campaign Finance Act; Governmental Ethics Commission; campaign finance reports; electronic filing