

SESSION OF 2013

SUPPLEMENTAL NOTE ON HOUSE BILL NO. 2221

As Recommended by House Committee on
Education

Brief*

HB 2221 would establish the Equal Access Act for professional employees' organizations and would modify the Professional Negotiations Act.

The bill would require all local boards of education to:

- Give equal access for all professional employees' associations to the employees' physical or electronic mailboxes; and
- Allow equal access for all professional employees' associations to attend new teacher or employee school orientations and other meetings.

Local boards of education would not be allowed to designate any day or breaks in a school year by naming or referring to the name of any professional employees' association.

The bill would amend the Professional Negotiations Act by making the Equal Access Act supplemental and part of that law. Changes in the Professional Negotiations Act would include expanding the definition of "professional employees' organizations" to include those existing for the purpose of professional development or liability protection.

*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>

Finally, the bill would delete certain language from the Professional Negotiations Act in conflict with a provision created in the bill for the definition of "terms and conditions of professional service."

Background

The bill was introduced by the House Committee on Education. Proponents of the bill include Representative Meigs, representatives of the Kansas Association of American Educators and the Kansas Policy Institute, and a Kansas teacher. Opponents includes a representative of the Kansas National Education Association and three teachers.

The Division of the Budget fiscal note stated enactment of the bill would have no fiscal effect.