

SESSION OF 2013

SUPPLEMENTAL NOTE ON HOUSE BILL NO. 2377

As Recommended by House Committee on
Appropriations

Brief*

HB 2377 would extend the authority for the current Judicial Branch surcharge for FY 2014 and FY 2015. The surcharge will sunset automatically on June 30, 2013, under current law. The House Appropriations bill directs that \$10.0 million from the State General Fund would be lapsed from the Judicial Branch budget in FY 2014 and FY 2015, contingent upon the passage of HB 2377 or any other bill extending the Judicial Branch surcharge.

The bill also would make a technical correction to remove language authorizing an application fee of \$25 for a written request to have driving privileges restricted, rather than suspended, for failure to comply with traffic citations. This provision expired on January 1, 2012.

Background

In the House Committee on Appropriations, Kim Fowler, Chief Budget Officer, Kansas Judicial Branch, offered written testimony in support of the bill. The Judicial Branch indicated the continuation of the surcharge was important to continued funding of the courts. A representative of the Kansas Credit Attorney Association offered testimony in opposition to the bill, stating the surcharge negatively impacts limited action cases resulting in a net reduction in total docket fee revenue. A representative of the Kansas Bar Association testified neutrally to 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>

According to the fiscal note prepared by the Division of the Budget, passage of the bill would result in \$10.2 million in surcharge revenue for both FY 2014 and FY 2015. Any fiscal effect associated with HB 2377 is not reflected in *The FY 2014 Governor's Budget Report*.