

STATE OF KANSAS

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SENATE CHAMBER

MADAM PRESIDENT:

I move to amend **Substitute for SB 171**, on page 50, following line 42, by inserting:

"New Sec. 61. (a) The purpose of this section is to provide an orderly and prompt means of filling vacancies in the governing body of a municipality. Prolonged vacancies in the governing body of a municipality deprive citizens of their right to representation and act as impediments to the orderly function of government of municipalities.

(b) As used in this section, the following terms are defined as follows:

(1) "Governing body" shall include the mayor and members of the council, the mayor and commissioners or the chairperson and members of the board of supervisors, depending on the form of government of the city or the consolidated city and county.

(2) "Municipality" means any city or any consolidated city and county.

(c) Except as provided in subsection (d), the governing body of any municipality where a vacancy exists shall appoint, by a majority vote of the remaining members, a person to fill the vacancy within 60 days of the vacancy. If the appointment is not made within the 60-day time frame, the governing body shall pass a resolution calling for a special election to fill such vacancy to be held within 45 days of the passage of such resolution. Candidates for the vacant office shall file for such office as provided in K.S.A. 25-2110a, and amendments thereto. The special election shall be conducted by the county election officer. The candidate receiving the highest number of votes for the vacant position shall assume such office upon certification of the election results.

(d) The provisions of subsection (c) shall not apply to any municipality which has a procedure for filling vacancies in its governing body and which has filled such vacancies within 60 days of the

vacancy.

Sec. 62. K.S.A. 12-344 is hereby amended to read as follows: 12-344. (a) Any plan submitted by the commission shall provide for the exercise of powers of local legislation and administration not inconsistent with the constitution or other laws of this state.

(b) If the commission submits a plan providing for the consolidation of certain city and county offices, functions, services and operations, the plan shall:

(1) Include a description of the form, structure, functions, powers and officers and the duties of such officers recommended in the plan;

(2) provide for the method of amendment of the plan;

(3) authorize the appointment of, or elimination of elective officials and offices;

(4) specify the effective date of the consolidation; and

(5) include other provisions determined necessary by the commission.

(c) If the plan provides for the consolidation of the city and county, in addition to the requirements of subsection (b), the plan shall:

(1) Fix the boundaries of the governing body's election districts, provide a method for changing the boundaries from time-to-time, any at-large positions on the governing body, fix the number, term and initial compensation of the governing body of the consolidated city-county and the method of election;

(2) determine whether elections of the governing body of the consolidated city-county shall be partisan or nonpartisan elections and the time at which such elections shall be held;

(3) determine the distribution of legislative and administrative duties of the consolidated city-county officials, provide for consolidation or expansion of services as necessary, authorize the appointment of a consolidated city-county administrator or a city-county manager, if deemed advisable, and prescribe the general structure of the consolidated city-county government;

(4) provide for the official name of the consolidated city-county; and

(5) provide for the transfer or other disposition of property and other rights, claims and assets of the county and city.

(d) Vacancies in the governing body shall be filled as provided in section 1, and amendments thereto.

Sec. 63. K.S.A. 2014 Supp. 12-363 is hereby amended to read as follows: 12-363. (a) Any plan submitted by the commission shall provide for the exercise of powers of local legislation and administration not inconsistent with the constitution or other laws of this state.

(b) If the commission submits a plan providing for the unification of certain city and county offices, functions, services and operations, the plan shall:

(1) Include a description of the form, structure, functions, powers and officers and the duties of such officers recommended in the plan;\_

(2) provide for the method of amendment of the plan;\_

(3) specify the effective date of the unification;\_ and

(4) include other provisions determined necessary by the commission.

(c) If the plan provides for the unification of the city and county, in addition to the requirements of subsection (b),\_ the plan shall:

(1) Provide that the members of the governing body be elected from districts or on an at-large basis and fix the number, term and initial compensation of the governing body of the unified city-county and the method of election;\_

(2) determine whether elections of the governing body of the unified city-county shall be partisan or nonpartisan elections and the time at which such elections shall be held;\_

(3) determine the distribution of legislative and administrative duties of the unified city-county officials, provide for unification or expansion of services as necessary, authorize the

appointment of a city-county administrator or manager, if deemed advisable, and prescribe the general structure of the unified city-county government-;

(4) provide for the official name of the unified city-county-;

(5) provide for the transfer or other disposition of property and other rights, claims and assets of the county and city-; and

(6) fix the rate of the retailers' sales tax, if any.

(d) Vacancies in the governing body shall be filled as provided in section 1, and amendments thereto.";

Also on page 50, in line 43, after "2-623," by inserting "12-344,";

On page 51, in line 13, after "2-624," by inserting "12-363,";

And by renumbering sections accordingly;

On page 1, in the title, in line 2, after "2-623," by inserting "12-344,"; in line 8, after "2-624," by inserting "12-363,"

Senator \_\_\_\_\_