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MEMORANDUM

To: Chairman Sloan and Members of the Committee on Water and Environment
From: Matt Sterling, Assistant Revisor of Statutes
Date: February 6, 2018
RE: House Bill 2577

HB 2577 would create the Kansas right-to-know fee fund in the state treasury that would be administered by the secretary of the Kansas Department of Health and Environment with all moneys received pursuant to K.S.A. 65-5704 deposited into the Kansas right-to-know fee fund.

Under current law, the State Emergency Response Commission that coordinates implementation of the federal emergency planning and community right-to-know act. The secretary provides administrative support to the commission, processes and manages required hazardous chemical information, establishes a list of reportable chemicals in Kansas, designates threshold planning and reportable quantities of chemicals, and adopts rules and regulations to implement the federal act. The secretary is authorized to adopt rules and regulations prescribing fees to cover the expense of these program costs.

Under HB 2577, all fees collected pursuant to the program would be deposited in the state treasury and credited to the Kansas right-to-know fee fund. All expenditures from the Kansas right-to-know fee fund would be used by the secretary of health and environment to administer the Kansas right-to-know program and provide funding to support training of Kansas first responders and emergency management officials.