

SESSION OF 2023

SUPPLEMENTAL NOTE ON SENATE BILL NO. 219

As Recommended by Senate Committee on
Public Health and Welfare

Brief*

SB 219 would amend the Health Care Provider Insurance Availability Act to add facilities where elective abortions are performed to the list of entities that are not healthcare providers as defined in the bill, which would make such facilities ineligible to purchase professional liability insurance from the Health Care Stabilization Fund (Fund).

The bill would require such facilities to maintain continuous professional liability insurance coverage equivalent to that provided by the Fund as a condition of licensure and to submit satisfactory proof of such coverage to the Fund's Board of Governors, which administers the Fund and advises the appropriate licensing and disciplinary authorities regarding the qualifications of healthcare providers.

Background

The bill was introduced by the Senate Committee on Federal and State Affairs at the request of Senator Erickson.

The bill was referred to the Senate Committee on Public Health and Welfare.

*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 Public Health and Welfare

In the Senate Committee meeting, Senators Masterson and Steffen and a precinct committeewoman provided **proponent** testimony on the bill, stating, as a matter of policy, Kansas prohibits taxpayer funding of abortion. The proponents stated, as a natural extension of that policy, facilities that perform elective abortions should not be able to access the Fund, which is a state resource.

Written-only proponent testimony was provided by representatives of Kansans for Life and Kansas Family Voice and 16 private citizens.

Written-only **opponent** testimony was provided by a private citizen.

Fiscal Information

According to the fiscal note prepared by the Division of the Budget on the bill, the Kansas Insurance Department and the Health Care Stabilization Fund (agency) both state enactment of the bill would have no fiscal effect.

Insurance; Health Care Provider Insurance Availability Act; Health Care Stabilization Fund; ineligible healthcare providers; elective abortion facilities; professional liability insurance requirement