

SESSION OF 2022

SUPPLEMENTAL NOTE ON SENATE BILL NO. 497

As Amended by Senate Committee on Judiciary

Brief*

SB 497, as amended, would amend law authorizing the Attorney General to coordinate training regarding human trafficking.

The bill would declare it is the public policy of the State that law enforcement agencies shall implement a coordinated multidisciplinary team approach to intervention in reports involving alleged human trafficking, aggravated human trafficking, or commercial sexual exploitation of a child for law enforcement, and would amend the Attorney General's authority to coordinate human trafficking training, in consultation with other appropriate state agencies, to reflect such approach.

The bill would require, for each fiscal year, certain specified persons complete one hour of training on human trafficking awareness and identification that has been developed or approved by the Attorney General. Persons required to complete the training would include:

- All employees or contractors of the Kansas Department for Children and Families (DCF), the Kansas Department for Aging and Disability Services (KDADS), or the Juvenile Services Division of the Department of Corrections, who in the course of employment, have regular contact with members of the general public;

*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>

- Individuals who are licensed, registered, certified, or otherwise authorized to practice by the Behavioral Sciences Regulatory Board (BSRB);
- All teachers, administrators, and employees of any public or nonpublic elementary or secondary school or any postsecondary educational institution as defined elsewhere in statute, who, in the course of employment, have regular contact with children who are less than 18 years of age; and
- All persons licensed by the Secretary of Health and Environment to provide child care services, and the employees of such licensees.

Background

The bill was introduced by the Senate Committee on Judiciary at the request of a representative of the Office of Attorney General (OAG).

Senate Committee on Judiciary

In the Senate Committee hearing on February 16, 2022, representatives of OAG, American Family Action of Kansas and Missouri, Engage Together, Human Trafficking Advisory Board, Rotary Club Community Action Against Human Trafficking, and Rotary International District 5710 testified as **proponents** on the bill. The proponents generally stated the multidisciplinary approach to human trafficking training proposed by the bill is the most effective way to intervene in and respond to human trafficking occurring in the state. Written-only proponent testimony was provided by a representative of the Kansas Association of Chiefs of Police, Kansas Peace Officers Association, and Kansas Sheriffs' Association and a representative of the Children's Alliance of Kansas. No other testimony was provided.

On February 21, 2022, the Senate Committee amended the bill to clarify which licensed professionals and school

personnel are required to complete the training described by the bill.

Fiscal Information

According to the fiscal note prepared by the Division of the Budget on the bill, as introduced, OAG indicates it could develop and approve the one-hour training proposed by the bill using existing resources.

The Kansas Board of Regents states enactment of the bill would require approximately 31,000 employees within the postsecondary education system to take the training, and that if such training is provided by the Attorney General free of charge, there would be no fiscal effect.

The State Board of Education indicates enactment of the bill would have no fiscal effect and would have a negligible fiscal effect on school districts.

DCF and KDADS indicate any additional expenditures required by enactment of the bill would be absorbed within existing resources.

BSRB states individuals licensed by the Board already are required to receive continuing education hours and new requirements added by the bill would be satisfied within the hours already required.

The Kansas Bureau of Investigation, KDOC, and the Kansas Highway Patrol estimate enactment of the bill would have no fiscal effect on the agencies. Any fiscal effect associated with enactment of the bill is not reflected in *The FY 2023 Governor's Budget Report*.

Human trafficking; training; Attorney General