

SESSION OF 2012

**SUPPLEMENTAL NOTE ON SUBSTITUTE FOR HOUSE  
BILL NO. 2477**

As Recommended by House Committee on  
Education

**Brief\***

Sub. for HB 2477 would require that students age 16 or 17 who withdraw from school be informed of educational alternatives during a final counseling session, which would include an alternative learning plan for the student. The alternative learning plan would identify educational programs located in the area where the student resides and are designed to aid the student in obtaining a high school diploma, general educational development (GED) credential, or other completion certificate. Current law requires other items be discussed in the final counseling session.

**Background**

The bill was introduced by Representative Pat Colloton in response, in part, to findings of the *2011 Final Report of the Kansas Commission on Graduation and Dropout Prevention*. The original bill would have required that students age 16 or 17 who withdraw from school be enrolled in an alternative education program designed to help students obtain a diploma or GED certificate.

The House Education Committee amended the bill eliminating the requirement that a student be enrolled in an alternative education program, instead making it an option discussed in the final counseling session.

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\*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>

A representative of the Kansas Association of School Boards opposed the original bill, but the representative indicated there would be no opposition to the substitute bill.

According to the Division of the Budget fiscal note, there would be no change in state aid to school districts; however, school districts would bear the costs of establishing or expanding alternative educational programs. There was no fiscal note available for the substitute bill.