

SESSION OF 2019

SUPPLEMENTAL NOTE ON SENATE BILL NO. 94

As Amended by Senate Committee on
Transportation

Brief*

SB 94, as amended, would require a motor vehicle accident avoidance course (course) associated with a required reduction in motor vehicle insurance premium charges to be at least four hours in duration. The bill would require the course utilize a nationally recognized driver training curriculum or a curriculum approved by a state or federal agency, rather than a course approved by the National Safety Council or a governmental agency such as the State Board of Education.

The bill would update language to replace “discount” with “premium reduction,” specify the insured participant is the principal operator of the covered vehicle, and make other technical changes.

Background

The bill was introduced by the Senate Committee on Transportation at the request of Senator Hilderbrand.

At the Senate Committee hearing, Senator Hilderbrand and representatives of AAA Kansas and AARP Kansas provided proponent testimony. The proponents stated the State Department of Education requires an eight-hour course, most states authorize a four-hour course, and the bill would provide incentives for more people to take the courses in Kansas and receive discounts on their automobile insurance

*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>

premiums. [Note: KAR 91-39-6 requires each school transportation provider to have completed a vehicle accident prevention course approved by the State Department of Education.] The representatives of AAA Kansas and AARP Kansas suggested amendments to the bill. No neutral or opponent testimony was provided.

The Senate Committee amended the bill to rename the type of course from an accident prevention course to an accident avoidance course; remove the National Safety Council as an entity that could approve the course; authorize utilization of a nationally recognized driver training curriculum; and replace “approved by . . . a governmental agency such as the state board of education” with “a curriculum approved by a state or federal agency.” According to testimony, the National Safety Council provides such a course but does not approve courses provided by other entities.

According to the fiscal note prepared by the Division of the Budget on the bill, as introduced, the Kansas Insurance Department indicates enactment of the bill would have no fiscal effect on that agency.