

SESSION OF 2022

**SUPPLEMENTAL NOTE ON HOUSE BILL NO. 2474**

As Recommended by House Committee on  
Judiciary

**Brief\***

HB 2474 would amend law governing name changes during a divorce to allow the court to change a spouse's name to a name other than the spouse's maiden name or former name and to give the court jurisdiction to make such a change at or after the time the decree of divorce becomes final.

[*Note:* Currently, statute allows the court to order the restoration of the spouse's maiden or former name.]

**Background**

The bill was introduced by Representatives Highberger and Neelly.

***House Committee on Judiciary***

In the House Committee hearing on January 18, 2022, a private citizen and a Douglas County District Court judge testified as **proponents**, stating the bill would save personal and judicial resources and provide a safety measure for victims of domestic violence. Representatives of the Kansas Bar Association and the Kansas Coalition Against Sexual and Domestic Violence provided written-only proponent testimony. No other testimony was provided.

---

\*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>

## **Fiscal Information**

According to the fiscal note prepared by the Division of the Budget on the bill, the Office of Judicial Administration indicates enactment of the bill would have a negligible fiscal effect on Judiciary Branch operations.

Divorce; name change