SENATE BILL No. 221

By Senator Haley

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9 AN ACT concerning crimes, punishment and criminal procedure; relating to evidence and videotaping of felony interrogations.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Kansas:

Section 1. (a) An oral, written or sign language statement of a defendant made as a result of an interrogation relating to an alleged felony, as defined by K.S.A. 21-3105, and amendments thereto, shall be presumed to be inadmissible as evidence against the defendant in any criminal proceeding brought against a defendant unless:

- (1) A video recording is made of the felony interrogation; and
- (2) the recording is substantially accurate and not intentionally altered.
- (b) Every video recording required under this section must be preserved until the defendant's conviction for an offense relating to the statement is final and all direct and habeas corpus appeals are exhausted or until the prosecution of offenses related to the recorded statement is barred by law, whichever occurs later.
- (c) If the court finds by a preponderance of the evidence that the defendant was subjected to a felony interrogation in violation of this section, any statement made by the defendant during or following that interrogation in violation of this section, even if otherwise in compliance with this section, is presumed to be inadmissible in any criminal proceeding against the defendant except for the purpose of impeachment.
 - (d) Nothing in this section precludes the admission of a:
- (1) Statement made by the defendant in open court at the defendant's trial, before a grand jury or at a preliminary hearing;
- (2) statement made during a felony interrogation that was not recorded as required by this section because video recording was not feasible;
- (3) voluntary statement, whether or not the result of felony interrogation, that has a bearing on the credibility of the accused as a witness;
 - (4) spontaneous statement that is not made in response to a question;
- (5) statement made after questioning that is routinely asked during the processing of the arrest of a suspect;
 - (6) statement made during a felony interrogation that is conducted

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 out-of-state; or

- (7) statement given at a time when the interrogators are unaware that an alleged felony has occurred.
- (e) The state shall bear the burden of proving by a preponderance of the evidence that one of the exceptions described in subsection (d) is applicable. Nothing in this section precludes the admission of a statement, otherwise inadmissible under this section, that is used only for impeachment and not as substantive evidence.
- (f) The presumption of inadmissibility of a statement made by a suspect at a felony interrogation at a police station or other place of detention may be overcome by a preponderance of the evidence that the statement was voluntarily given and is reliable based on the totality of the circumstances.
- (g) Any video recording of any statement made by a defendant during a felony interrogation that is compiled by any law enforcement agency as required by this section shall be confidential and exempt from the Kansas open records act in accordance with K.S.A. 45-221, and amendments thereto.
- (h) As used in this section, "video recording" means to capture the visual and audio components of an event in a manner that allows the event to be observed through that medium.
- Sec. 2. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its publication in the statute book.