Session of 2007

## **SENATE BILL No. 245**

By Senators Lynn, Journey, Palmer and Schodorf

2-1

9 AN ACT concerning the state long-term care ombudsman; amending 10 K.S.A. 2006 Supp. 75-7301 and repealing the existing section. 11 12Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Kansas: 13 New Section 1. (a) The ombudsman shall adopt and implement any 14policies the ombudsman deems necessary to recruit and train a number 15of volunteer ombudsmen sufficient to provide the services of at least one 16volunteer ombudsman in each area agency on aging planning service area 17region of the state. 18The ombudsman may adopt any rules and regulations necessary (b) 19to implement the provisions of this act. 20(c) The provisions of this section are a part of and supplemental to 21the long-term care ombudsman act. 22 Sec. 2. K.S.A. 2006 Supp. 75-7301 is hereby amended to read as 23 follows: 75-7301. (a) The office of the state long-term care ombudsman 24 is hereby attached to the department of administration. The office of the 25state long-term care ombudsman shall be in Topeka, Kansas. The sec-26retary of administration shall provide such technical assistance and advice 27 as the secretary deems reasonable and necessary to assist the state long-28term care ombudsman office to function as an independent state agency. 29 The secretary of administration and the department of administration 30 shall have no authority over the state long-term care ombudsman, any 31regional long-term care ombudsman, any other ombudsman, including 32 any volunteer ombudsman, or any other officer, employee or volunteer 33 of the office of the state long-term care ombudsman with respect to the 34 performance of any power, duty or function of the office or the exercise 35 of any other authority of the office or the state long-term care 36 ombudsman. 37 (b) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2000, and for each fiscal year 38 thereafter, the secretary of administration shall include the budget esti-39 mate of the office of the state long-term care ombudsman, as prepared 40 and approved by the state long-term care ombudsman, along with the 41budget estimate prepared and submitted to the division of the budget for 42the department of administration under K.S.A. 75-3717 and amendments

43 thereto. The budget estimate of the office of the state long-term care

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1 ombudsman for each such fiscal year shall be prepared at the direction and under the supervision of the state long-term care ombudsman. Ex-2 3 penditures from appropriations to the department of administration for the office of the state long-term care ombudsman, made pursuant to 4 budget estimates for the office, shall be made on vouchers approved by 5the state long-term care ombudsman or the state long-term care om-6 7 budsman's designee. All vouchers for expenditures and all payrolls of the 8 office of the state long-term care ombudsman shall be approved by the state long-term care ombudsman or the state long-term care ombuds-9 man's designee. 10 (c) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2008, and for each fiscal year 11 12thereafter, the budget estimate of the state long-term care ombudsman 13 shall include funding for the activities of the statewide long-term care ombudsman program, including one regional long-term care ombudsman 1415for each area agency on aging planning service area region of Kansas and 16 a sufficient number of officers and employees for the office of the longterm care ombudsman, to provide for the recruiting and training of vol-1718unteer ombudsmen and friendly advocates, to provide the services of the statewide long-term care ombudsman program under the provisions of 1920the long-term care ombudsman act for all residents of facilities in Kansas 21and to investigate all complaints involving residents of facilities in Kansas 22 pursuant to the long-term care ombudsman act. 23 Sec. 3. K.S.A. 2006 Supp. 75-7301 is hereby repealed.

24 Sec. 4. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its 25 publication in the statute book.