

SESSION OF 2002

SUPPLEMENTAL NOTE ON HOUSE BILL NO. 2669

As Amended by House Committee on
Education

Brief*

HB 2669 amends the laws that prescribe conditions for imposing on a pupil a one-year expulsion from school and a one-year suspension of a pupil's driver's license or revocation of the driving privilege for possession of certain types of weapons at school, on school property, or at a school-supervised activity. The definition of the term "weapon" in these laws is expanded to include live ammunition, which includes cartridge cases, primers, bullets, or propellant powder designed for use in a firearm. The amendment also makes it clear that the term "weapon" does not include spent ammunition.

Background

HB 2669 was introduced at the request of Representative Tomlinson. In his testimony, Representative Tomlinson also suggested inclusion of pepper spray and mace to the "weapons" listing in the law. Representative Tomlinson acknowledged that the National Rifle Association had expressed some concern about the definition of ammunition in the bill as introduced and urged that these concerns be addressed. Also appearing as proponents of the bill were the president of the Kansas Association of School Resource Officers (KASRO), a member of the El Dorado police department, and the vice-president of KASRO, a school resource officer for Shawnee Mission Horizons High School.

A spokesperson for the Kansas Association of School Boards, appearing as a neutral party on the measure, noted that possession of the item being added to the list of weapons under the statutes could be

*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.accesskansas.org/legislature/>

addressed with essentially the same consequences for the pupil under the general suspension and expulsion law.

The Committee amendments were designed to make it clear that spent ammunition was not to be construed to be a weapon under these statutes.

The fiscal note states that the bill would have no fiscal effect on the State Department of Education.