

SESSION OF 2004

**SUPPLEMENTAL NOTE ON SENATE BILL NO. 400**

As Recommended by Senate Committee on  
Federal and State Affairs

**Brief\***

SB 400 amends the Kansas Law Enforcement Training Act.

The bill would amend an existing statute pertaining to the training requirements for law enforcement officers. The bill would define "law enforcement" to mean the prevention or detection of crime and the enforcement of the criminal or traffic laws of the state or any municipalities. Current law includes this definition in the duties of a police officer or law enforcement officer. The bill would alter the definition of "full-time" and "part-time" employment to relate specifically to law enforcement work.

**Background**

Senator Huelskamp testified in favor of the bill. He spoke to the written testimony submitted by Dwight Watson of the City of Montezuma which stated difficulties of obtaining training for part time police officers for the city. Mr. Watson's testimony stated that a small city like Montezuma does not need and cannot afford to hire a full time police officer. By allowing small communities to employ a part time officer and to utilize that employee in another separate city employment would allow the city to have the benefits of a trained qualified officer any time one is needed. The only other option would be to hire a full time officer which would be too costly and not needed or hire a person who would be an untrained volunteer to do police work.

The bill would allow employees who work full-time for the city, but only part-time as law enforcement officers, to qualify for law enforcement training programs that are aimed at part-time officers rather

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\*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>

than requiring them to take training programs that are for full-time officers.

No opponents testified on the bill.

The fiscal note indicated that the passage of the bill would reduce the costs for local governments by providing additional flexibility in fulfilling training requirements for officer who currently work for that local government in a capacity other than as law enforcement officers.