

SESSION OF 2005

SUPPLEMENTAL NOTE ON HOUSE BILL NO. 2153

As Amended by Senate Committee on
Public Health and Welfare

Brief*

HB 2153, were it to become law, would amend two of the statutes in the Long-Term Care Ombudsman Act that concern reporting and coordination of the activities of the State Long-Term Care Ombudsman. The amendments require complaints of suspected abuse, neglect, or exploitation of residents of adult care homes that are brought to the attention of the Long-Term Care Ombudsman to be referred to the Secretary of Aging. Other amendments delete the Department of Health and Environment from, and add the Department on Aging to, those agencies with which the Ombudsman is to collaborate in establishing a statewide system for collecting and analyzing information on complaints and conditions in adult care homes and direct that copies of reports received by the Ombudsman relating to the health and safety of residents be forwarded to the Secretary of Aging. The amendments also update references to the Kansas Open Records Act.

Background

HB 2153 was introduced by the House Committee at the request of the Secretary of Aging and the State Long-Term Care Ombudsman. The latter appeared before the Senate Committee to support the bill. The proposed amendments result from action by the 2003 Legislature which changed the agency to which mandated reports of suspected abuse, neglect, or exploitation of residents of adult care homes are directed from the Secretary of Health and Environment to the Secretary of Aging. In addition to restoring the Department of Social and Rehabilitation Services as an agency with which the Long-Term Care Ombudsman is to collaborate in establishing a system for collection

*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>

and analysis of information about conditions in adult care homes, the Senate Committee amendments clean up terminology in KSA 2004 Supp. 75-7310.

The fiscal note for HB 2153 states enactment of the bill would have no fiscal impact.