

SESSION OF 2008

SUPPLEMENTAL NOTE ON HOUSE BILL NO. 2698

As Amended by House Committee on
Energy and Utilities

Brief*

HB 2698, as amended, would amend current law to prohibit unsolicited consumer telephone calls between 8:00 p.m. and 8:00 a.m., central time. This restriction would extend to “robo-calls,” which the bill defines as calls to a residential number for any purpose other than an emergency using an artificial or prerecorded voice without the called party’s consent. The bill would allow for persons who receive prohibited calls to seek relief under the Kansas Consumer Protection Act.

Background

At the House Committee on Energy Utilities hearing on HB 2698, the bill was supported by Representative Judith Loganbill. The bill was opposed by Doug Smith of the Direct Marketing Association.

The House Committee on Energy and Utilities amended the bill to include a definition of robo-call. The Committee also made technical changes to the bill.

The fiscal note prepared by the Division of the Budget for the introduced version of the bill indicates that passage of the bill could generate additional complaints and investigations for the Attorney General’s staff under the Kansas Consumer Protection Act but that the agency would be able to absorb the related expenditures. The House Committee amendment may create additional fiscal impact, but the magnitude cannot be determined.

*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>