

SENATE BILL No. 445

By Committee on Federal and State Affairs

2-2

1 AN ACT concerning first responders; relating to law enforcement officers
2 and emergency medical service providers; requiring training thereof;
3 establishing minimum training requirements related to dementia care.
4

5 *Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Kansas:*

6 Section 1. (a) As used in this section:

7 (1) "Board" means the Kansas accreditation council for the Kansas
8 law enforcement accreditation program.

9 (2) "Commission" means the Kansas commission on peace officers'
10 training and standards and training, established by K.S.A. 74-5606, and
11 amendments thereto.

12 (3) "Department" means the Kansas department for aging and
13 disability services.

14 (4) "Emergency medical service provider" means the same as defined
15 in K.S.A. 65-6112, and amendments thereto.

16 (5) "First responder" means any emergency medical service provider
17 or law enforcement officer.

18 (6) "Law enforcement officer" means the same as defined in K.S.A.
19 22-220, and amendments thereto.

20 (7) "Training center" means the law enforcement training center
21 within the university of Kansas, established by K.S.A. 74-5603, and
22 amendments thereto.

23 (b) (1) Notwithstanding the provisions of K.S.A. 65-6129, and
24 amendments thereto, beginning on January 1, 2025, the emergency
25 medical services board shall require:

26 (A) As part of an original application for an emergency medical
27 service provider certificate, a person to successfully complete four hours
28 of basic training on identifying and interacting with persons with dementia
29 or Alzheimer's disease.

30 (B) as part of successful completion of continuing education required
31 by K.S.A. 65-6129, and amendments thereto, for renewal of an emergency
32 medical service provider certificate, a person shall successfully complete
33 two hours of dementia training.

34 (2) The emergency medical services board, in consultation with the
35 department, shall develop a dementia training program with instruction on
36 identifying and interacting with persons with Alzheimer's disease or other

1 dementias and best practices on emergency medical care for such persons.

2 Such training program shall include:

3 (A) Behavioral and psychological symptoms of dementia;

4 (B) common medical emergencies experienced by people living with
5 dementia;

6 (C) effective and respectful communication with people living with
7 dementia and their caregivers to determine appropriate medical responses
8 and enhance collaboration with caregivers;

9 (D) methods to address behavioral symptoms during the
10 administration of emergency medical treatment;

11 (E) risk factors, signs and reporting incidents of elder abuse, neglect
12 and exploitation;

13 (F) protocols for contacting caregivers when a person living with
14 dementia is found wandering or during emergent situations; and

15 (G) local caregiving resources that are available for people living
16 with dementia.

17 (c) (1) Notwithstanding the provisions of K.S.A. 74-5607a, and
18 amendments thereto, beginning on January 1, 2025, the commission shall
19 require:

20 (A) As part of a full-time officer basic course of accredited
21 instruction at the training center or at a certified state or local law
22 enforcement training school to receive original certification as a law
23 enforcement officer, a person to successfully complete four hours of basic
24 training on identifying and interacting with persons with dementia or
25 Alzheimer's disease.

26 (B) as part of the continuing law enforcement education required by
27 K.S.A. 74-5607a, and amendments thereto, every full-time law
28 enforcement officer shall successfully complete two hours of dementia
29 training.

30 (2) The commission, in consultation with the board, shall develop a
31 dementia training program with instruction on identifying and interacting
32 with persons with Alzheimer's disease or other dementias and best
33 practices on interacting with such persons. Such training program shall
34 include:

35 (A) Behavioral and psychological symptoms of dementia;

36 (B) situations and behaviors in which persons living with dementia
37 could attract the attention of law enforcement such as wandering,
38 shoplifting and auto accidents;

39 (C) effective and respectful communication with people living with
40 dementia and their caregivers to determine appropriate responses and
41 enhance collaboration with caregivers;

42 (D) methods to understand and approach behavioral symptoms and
43 identify alternatives to physical restraints;

1 (E) risk factors, signs and reporting incidents of elder abuse, neglect
2 and exploitation;

3 (F) protocols for contacting caregivers when a person living with
4 dementia is found wandering or during emergent situations; and

5 (G) local caregiving resources that are available for people living
6 with dementia.

7 Sec. 2. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its
8 publication in the statute book.