SESSION OF 2020

SUPPLEMENTAL NOTE ON HOUSE BILL NO. 2695

As Recommended by House Committee on
Corrections and Juvenile Justice

Brief*

HB 2695 would create and amend provisions in the Kansas Law Enforcement Training Act (Act).

The bill would allow the Secretary of Corrections (Secretary), with the consent of the Director of Police Training of the Kansas Law Enforcement Training Center (KLETC), to designate an employee of the Kansas Department of Corrections (KDOC) to:

- Attend the KLETC or any training school certified under continuing law; or
- Attend courses provided by the KLETC or a certified training school.

The bill would require the KDOC and employee be provided a transcript of the courses successfully completed.

The bill would amend the definition of “police officer or law enforcement officer” in the Act by inserting a reference to special agents of the KDOC and by removing a reference to special investigators of the Juvenile Justice Authority (JJA) in the list of persons included in such terms. The bill would further amend that definition to remove a reference to other employees of the JJA and would specify the list of excluded persons includes any employee of the KDOC other than special agents.

*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
[Note: Executive Reorganization Order No. 42 abolished the JJA and transferred the jurisdiction, powers, functions, and duties of the JJA and the Commissioner of Juvenile Justice to the KDOC and the Secretary, effective July 1, 2013.]

The bill would also make a technical amendment to ensure consistency in statutory phrasing.

Background

The bill was introduced by the House Committee on Corrections and Juvenile Justice at the request of the KDOC.

In the House Committee hearing, representatives of KDOC and of the Kansas Association of Chiefs of Police, Kansas Peace Officers Association, and Kansas Sheriffs Association testified in support of the bill. Proponents generally indicated the bill would ensure KDOC access to training provided by the KLETC of the University of Kansas, which they stated would allow KDOC special investigators to be certified law enforcement officials, would help such investigators perform their job duties, and would be beneficial to the safety of both KDOC employees and the public. No other testimony was provided.

According to the fiscal note prepared by the Division of Budget on the bill, the KLETC indicates enactment of the bill would result in additional revenues of approximately $9,119 in FY 2021, which would be received from the agencies whose officers receive the training.

The Office of Judicial Administration, the KDOC, and the Commission on Peace Officers’ Standards and Training indicate enactment of the bill would have no fiscal effect. Any fiscal effect associated with the bill is not reflected in The FY 2021 Governor’s Budget Report.