

Firearm Safety Education Programs in Public School Districts; HB 2304

HB 2304 creates law related to firearm safety education programs conducted in public school districts.

The bill allows local school boards (local board) to provide firearm safety education programs. The State Board of Education (State Board) is directed to establish curriculum guidelines for a standardized firearm safety education program, which is required to include accident prevention.

The bill provides that specific programs are to be based on the grade level of students, as follows:

- Kindergarten through grade 5 guidelines shall be based on the Eddie Eagle Gunsafe program (Eddie Eagle program) offered by the National Rifle Association (NRA) or any successor program;
- Grades 6 through 8 guidelines shall be based on either the Eddie Eagle program, or any successor program, or the Hunter Education in Our Schools program (Hunter Education), offered by the Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks, or any successor program; and
- Grades 9 through 12 guidelines shall be based on Hunter Education or any successor program.

The bill provides that if a local board elects to provide firearm safety education, such instruction must be in accordance with the guidelines established by the State Board. Further, if a local board elects to provide firearm safety education courses, such instruction shall be offered to ensure that all students are provided the opportunity to take the course.