HB 2767, as amended, would allow the State Child Death Review Board to disclose information extracted from the Board’s records pursuant to rules and regulations the bill would require the Board to adopt. The rules and regulations would be required to prohibit disclosure of any identifying information, including name, full date of birth, date or location information related to the incident associated with the child’s death, residence street number and street name, or death certificate or medical record number. The rules and regulations also would contain a requirement for a confidentiality agreement with any person granted access to information, and would authorize disclosure of the information only for the purpose of public health or education to:

- An organization with a Federalwide Assurance for the Protection of Human Subjects (FWA) in good standing, if the organization provides documentation of review of the research proposal by an institutional review board designated in the FWA; or
- A governmental agency.

The bill would make technical amendments to standardize references to the Board, update a reference to the Secretary for Children and Families, and replace the term “physicians” with “persons” with regard to Board composition.
Background

The bill was introduced by the House Committee on Federal and State Affairs. In the House Committee on Corrections and Juvenile Justice, the executive director and a former member of the Board and representatives of Kansas Action for Children and Safe Kids Kansas testified in support of the bill. A member of the Board, private citizens, and representatives of the Kansas Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics, the Kansas Children’s Service League, the Kansas Infant Death and SIDS Network, and the Kansas Judicial Council provided written testimony supporting the bill. There was no opponent or neutral testimony.

The House Committee amended the bill to remove a database provision, clarify the provisions related to address information, change “any state agency or municipality” to “a governmental agency,” and remove a provision stating the granting or denial of access to information is within the Board’s discretion, regardless of compliance with the requirements for access.

According to the fiscal note prepared by the Division of the Budget on the original bill, the Office of the Attorney General indicates the bill would have no fiscal effect.