

SESSION OF 2018

SUPPLEMENTAL NOTE ON HOUSE BILL NO. 2460

As Amended by House Committee on Federal
and State Affairs

Brief*

HB 2460, as amended, would create law related to firearm safety education programs conducted in public school districts.

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

The bill would provide that specific programs would be used based on the grade level of students, as follows:

- Kindergarten through grade five guidelines would be based on the Eddie Eagle Gunsafe program (Eddie Eagle program), offered by the National Rifle Association (NRA) or any successor program;
- Grades six through eight guidelines would be based on either the Eddie Eagle program or the Hunter Education in Our Schools program (Hunter Education), offered by the Kansas Department of Wildlife, Parks and Tourism (KDWPT); and
- Grades nine through twelve guidelines would be based on Hunter Education.

*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>

The bill would provide 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 would have to be offered so as to ensure all students are provided the opportunity to take the course.

Background

The bill was introduced by the House Committee on Federal and State Affairs at the request of Representative Whitmer. In the House Committee hearing, proponent testimony was presented by Representative Whitmer and representatives of KDWPT, the NRA, and the Kansas State Rifle Association.

Opponent testimony was presented by a representative of the Kansas Association of School Boards. No other testimony was provided.

The House Committee amended the bill by modifying the program guidelines to be developed for grades six through eight.

According to the fiscal note prepared by the Division of the Budget on the bill, as introduced, the Department of Education (Department) estimates enactment of the bill would require additional expenditures totaling \$2,500, all from the State General Fund, for travel and *per diem* expenditures related to Department staff meeting with school administrators for input on curriculum guidelines. Any fiscal effect associated with enactment of the bill is not reflected in *The FY 2019 Governor's Budget Report*.