

House Substitute for SENATE BILL No. 419

AN ACT concerning crimes, punishment and criminal procedure; relating to controlled substances; providing immunity from prosecution for certain drug crimes when persons seek or provide medical assistance related to the use of a controlled substance.

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

Section 1. (a) A law enforcement officer shall not take a person into custody based solely on the commission of an offense described in subsection (b) if the law enforcement officer, after making a reasonable determination and considering the facts and surrounding circumstances, reasonably believes that the person:

(1) (A) Initiated contact with a law enforcement officer, law enforcement agency or emergency medical services and requested medical assistance on the person's own behalf because the person reasonably believed they needed medical assistance as a result of the use of a controlled substance; and

(B) cooperated with law enforcement officers and emergency medical services personnel in providing such medical assistance;

(2) (A) was a person who rendered aid to another person who reasonably appeared to need medical assistance as a result of the use of a controlled substance or initiated contact with a law enforcement officer, law enforcement agency or emergency medical services and requested medical assistance for another person who reasonably appeared to need medical assistance as a result of the use of a controlled substance;

(B) provided such person's full name and any other relevant information that is necessary to provide the medical assistance described in paragraph (2)(A) as requested by law enforcement or emergency medical services;

(C) remained at the scene with the person who reasonably appeared to need medical assistance until emergency medical services personnel and law enforcement officers arrived; and

(D) cooperated with emergency medical services personnel and law enforcement officers in providing such medical assistance; or

(3) (A) was the person who reasonably appeared to need medical assistance as a result of the use of a controlled substance as described in subsection (a)(2)(A); and

(B) cooperated with emergency medical services personnel and law enforcement officers in providing such medical assistance.

(b) (1) Except as provided in paragraph (2), each person who meets the criteria in subsection (a) is immune from criminal prosecution for a violation of K.S.A. 21-5706 or 21-5709(b)(2), and amendments thereto, and any city ordinance or county resolution prohibiting the acts prohibited by K.S.A. 21-5706 or 21-5709(b)(2), and amendments thereto.

(2) No person is immune from criminal prosecution as provided in paragraph (1) if the quantity of controlled substances found at the scene of the encounter with law enforcement would be sufficient to create a rebuttable presumption of an intent to distribute as described in K.S.A. 21-5705(e), and amendments thereto.

(c) The provisions of this section shall not apply to a person seeking medical assistance during the course of the execution of an arrest warrant or search warrant or a lawful search.

(d) Nothing in this section shall be construed to preclude a person who is immune from criminal prosecution pursuant to this section from being prosecuted based on evidence obtained from an independent source.

(e) A person shall not be allowed to initiate or maintain an action against a law enforcement officer, or the officer's employer, based on the officer's compliance or failure to comply with this section. Except

in cases of reckless or intentional misconduct, a law enforcement officer shall be immune from liability for arresting a person who is later determined to be immune from prosecution pursuant to this section.

(f) As used in this section:

(1) "Controlled substance" means the same as defined in K.S.A. 21-5701, and amendments thereto; and

(2) "law enforcement officer" means the same as defined in K.S.A. 21-5111, and amendments thereto.

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

I hereby certify that the above BILL originated in the  
SENATE, and passed that body

\_\_\_\_\_  
SENATE adopted  
Conference Committee Report \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
*President of the Senate.*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Secretary of the Senate.*

Passed the HOUSE  
as amended \_\_\_\_\_

HOUSE adopted  
Conference Committee Report \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Speaker of the House.*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Chief Clerk of the House.*

APPROVED \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Governor.*