

SESSION OF 2024

**SUPPLEMENTAL NOTE ON HOUSE BILL NO. 2523**

As Amended by House Committee on  
Transportation

**Brief\***

HB 2523 would permit holders of farm permits who are at least 15, but less than 16, years of age to operate an appropriate motor vehicle between the hours of 6 a.m. and 9 p.m. in going to or from any religious activity held by a religious organization.

The bill would also permit, for farm permit holders over the age of 16, driving to or from any religious activity held by a religious organization. Current law permits farm permit holders over the age of 16 to drive to or from any religious worship service held by a religious organization.

[*Note:* The term “religious organization” is defined for purposes of the Motor Vehicle Driver’s License Act in KSA 8-234a. The organization must unite for religious purposes at a definite place, have a regular schedule of services or meetings on at least a weekly basis, and be organized and created as a *bona fide* religious organization.]

**Background**

The bill was introduced by the House Committee on Transportation at the request of Representative Francis on behalf of Representative A. Smith.

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\*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>

### ***House Committee on Transportation***

In the House Committee hearing, **proponent** testimony was presented by Representative A. Smith and the Wallace County Treasurer.

Proponents generally stated the bill would make privileges for farm permit holders consistent with privileges for restricted license holders of similar ages.

Written-only proponent testimony was provided by a representative of the Kansas Farm Bureau.

No other testimony was provided.

The House Committee amended the bill to make the privilege of driving to or from any religious activity apply beginning at 15, rather than at 14, years of age. [*Note:* A farm permit is available at age 14 to qualified individuals.]

### **Fiscal Information**

According to the fiscal note prepared by the Division of the Budget on the bill, as introduced, the Department of Revenue indicates enactment of the bill would not have a fiscal effect.

Driver's license; farm permit; religious activities