

HOUSE BILL No. 2068

AN ACT concerning certain municipalities; relating to the Kansas tort claims act; amending K.S.A. 2002 Supp. 75-6102 and 75-6104 and repealing the existing sections.

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

Section 1. K.S.A. 2002 Supp. 75-6102 is hereby amended to read as follows: 75-6102. As used in K.S.A. 75-6101 through 75-6118, and amendments thereto, unless the context clearly requires otherwise:

(a) "State" means the state of Kansas and any department or branch of state government, or any agency, authority, institution or other instrumentality thereof.

(b) "Municipality" means any county, township, city, school district or other political or taxing subdivision of the state, or any agency, authority, institution or other instrumentality thereof.

(c) "Governmental entity" means state or municipality.

(d) "Employee" means any officer, employee, servant or member of a board, commission, committee, division, department, branch or council of a governmental entity, including elected or appointed officials and persons acting on behalf or in service of a governmental entity in any official capacity, whether with or without compensation and a charitable health care provider. Employee includes any steward or racing judge appointed pursuant to K.S.A. 74-8818, and amendments thereto, regardless of whether the services of such steward or racing judge are rendered pursuant to contract as an independent contractor, but does not otherwise include any independent contractor under contract with a governmental entity except (1) employees of the United States marshal's service engaged in the transportation of inmates on behalf of the secretary of corrections, (2) a person who is an employee of a nonprofit independent contractor, other than a municipality, under contract to provide educational or vocational training to inmates in the custody of the secretary of corrections and who is engaged in providing such service in an institution under the control of the secretary of corrections provided that such employee does not otherwise have coverage for such acts and omissions within the scope of their employment through a liability insurance contract of such independent contractor; and (3) a person who is an employee or volunteer of a nonprofit program, other than a municipality, who has contracted with the commissioner of juvenile justice or with another nonprofit program that has contracted with the commissioner of juvenile justice to provide a juvenile justice program for juvenile offenders in a judicial district provided that such employee or volunteer does not otherwise have coverage for such acts and omissions within the scope of their employment or volunteer activities through a liability insurance contract of such nonprofit program. "Employee" also includes an employee of an indigent health care clinic. "Employee" also includes former employees for acts and omissions within the scope of their employment during their former employment with the governmental entity.

(e) "Community service work" means public or community service performed by a person (1) as a result of a contract of diversion entered into by such person as authorized by law, (2) pursuant to the assignment of such person by a court to a community corrections program, (3) as a result of suspension of sentence or as a condition of probation pursuant to court order, (4) in lieu of a fine imposed by court order or (5) as a condition of placement ordered by a court pursuant to K.S.A. 38-1663, and amendments thereto.

(f) "Charitable health care provider" means a person licensed by the state board of healing arts as an exempt licensee or a federally active licensee, a person issued a limited permit by the state board of healing arts, a physician assistant licensed by the state board of healing arts or a health care provider as the term "health care provider" is defined under K.S.A. 65-4921, and amendments thereto, who has entered into an agreement with:

(1) The secretary of health and environment under K.S.A. 75-6120, and amendments thereto, who, pursuant to such agreement, gratuitously renders professional services to a person who has provided information which would reasonably lead the health care provider to make the good faith assumption that such person meets the definition of medically indigent person as defined by this section or to a person receiving medical assistance from the programs operated by the department of social and

rehabilitation services, and who is considered an employee of the state of Kansas under K.S.A. 75-6120, and amendments thereto;

(2) the secretary of health and environment and who, pursuant to such agreement, gratuitously renders professional services in conducting children's immunization programs administered by the secretary; or

(3) a local health department or indigent health care clinic, which renders professional services to medically indigent persons or persons receiving medical assistance from the programs operated by the department of social and rehabilitation services gratuitously or for a fee paid by the local health department or indigent health care clinic to such provider and who is considered an employee of the state of Kansas under K.S.A. 75-6120 and amendments thereto. Professional services rendered by a provider under this paragraph (3) shall be considered gratuitous notwithstanding fees based on income eligibility guidelines charged by a local health department or indigent health care clinic and notwithstanding any fee paid by the local health department or indigent health care clinic to a provider in accordance with this paragraph (3).

(g) "Medically indigent person" means a person who lacks resources to pay for medically necessary health care services and who meets the eligibility criteria for qualification as a medically indigent person established by the secretary of health and environment under K.S.A. 75-6120, and amendments thereto.

(h) "Indigent health care clinic" means an outpatient medical care clinic operated on a not-for-profit basis which has a contractual agreement in effect with the secretary of health and environment to provide health care services to medically indigent persons.

(i) "Local health department" shall have the meaning ascribed to such term under K.S.A. 65-241 and amendments thereto.

(j) "*Fire control, fire rescue or emergency medical services equipment*" means any vehicle, firefighting tool, protective clothing, breathing apparatus and any other supplies, tools or equipment used in firefighting or fire rescue or in the provision of emergency medical services.

Sec. 2. K.S.A. 2002 Supp. 75-6104 is hereby amended to read as follows: 75-6104. A governmental entity or an employee acting within the scope of the employee's employment shall not be liable for damages resulting from:

(a) Legislative functions, including, but not limited to, the adoption or failure to adopt any statute, regulation, ordinance or resolution;

(b) judicial function;

(c) enforcement of or failure to enforce a law, whether valid or invalid, including, but not limited to, any statute, rule and regulation, ordinance or resolution;

(d) adoption or enforcement of, or failure to adopt or enforce, any written personnel policy which protects persons' health or safety unless a duty of care, independent of such policy, is owed to the specific individual injured, except that the finder of fact may consider the failure to comply with any written personnel policy in determining the question of negligence;

(e) any claim based upon the exercise or performance or the failure to exercise or perform a discretionary function or duty on the part of a governmental entity or employee, whether or not the discretion is abused and regardless of the level of discretion involved;

(f) the assessment or collection of taxes or special assessments;

(g) any claim by an employee of a governmental entity arising from the tortious conduct of another employee of the same governmental entity, if such claim is (1) compensable pursuant to the Kansas workers compensation act or (2) not compensable pursuant to the Kansas workers compensation act because the injured employee was a firemen's relief association member who was exempt from such act pursuant to K.S.A. 44-505d, and amendments thereto, at the time the claim arose;

(h) the malfunction, destruction or unauthorized removal of any traffic or road sign, signal or warning device unless it is not corrected by the governmental entity responsible within a reasonable time after actual or constructive notice of such malfunction, destruction or removal. Nothing herein shall give rise to liability arising from the act or omission of any governmental entity in placing or removing any of the above signs, signals

or warning devices when such placement or removal is the result of a discretionary act of the governmental entity;

(i) any claim which is limited or barred by any other law or which is for injuries or property damage against an officer, employee or agent where the individual is immune from suit or damages;

(j) any claim based upon emergency management activities, except that governmental entities shall be liable for claims to the extent provided in article 9 of chapter 48 of the Kansas Statutes Annotated;

(k) the failure to make an inspection, or making an inadequate or negligent inspection, of any property other than the property of the governmental entity, to determine whether the property complies with or violates any law or rule and regulation or contains a hazard to public health or safety;

(l) snow or ice conditions or other temporary or natural conditions on any public way or other public place due to weather conditions, unless the condition is affirmatively caused by the negligent act of the governmental entity;

(m) the plan or design for the construction of or an improvement to public property, either in its original construction or any improvement thereto, if the plan or design is approved in advance of the construction or improvement by the governing body of the governmental entity or some other body or employee exercising discretionary authority to give such approval and if the plan or design was prepared in conformity with the generally recognized and prevailing standards in existence at the time such plan or design was prepared;

(n) failure to provide, or the method of providing, police or fire protection;

(o) any claim for injuries resulting from the use of any public property intended or permitted to be used as a park, playground or open area for recreational purposes, unless the governmental entity or an employee thereof is guilty of gross and wanton negligence proximately causing such injury;

(p) the natural condition of any unimproved public property of the governmental entity;

(q) any claim for injuries resulting from the use or maintenance of a public cemetery owned and operated by a municipality or an abandoned cemetery, title to which has vested in a governmental entity pursuant to K.S.A. 17-1366 through 17-1368, and amendments thereto, unless the governmental entity or an employee thereof is guilty of gross and wanton negligence proximately causing the injury;

(r) the existence, in any condition, of a minimum maintenance road, after being properly so declared and signed as provided in K.S.A. 68-5,102, and amendments thereto;

(s) any claim for damages arising from the performance of community service work other than damages arising from the operation of a motor vehicle as defined by K.S.A. 40-3103, and amendments thereto;

(t) any claim for damages arising from the operation of vending machines authorized pursuant to K.S.A. 68-432 or K.S.A. 75-3343a, and amendments thereto;

(u) providing, distributing or selling information from geographic information systems which includes an entire formula, pattern, compilation, program, device, method, technique, process, digital database or system which electronically records, stores, reproduces and manipulates by computer geographic and factual information which has been developed internally or provided from other sources and compiled for use by a public agency, either alone or in cooperation with other public or private entities;

(v) any claim arising from providing a juvenile justice program to juvenile offenders, if such juvenile justice program has contracted with the commissioner of juvenile justice or with another nonprofit program that has contracted with the commissioner of juvenile justice; ~~or~~

(w) performance of, or failure to perform, any activity pursuant to K.S.A. 74-8922, and amendments thereto, including, but not limited to, issuance and enforcement of a consent decree agreement, oversight of contaminant remediation and taking title to any or all of the federal enclave described in such statute;

(x) *any claim arising from the making of a donation of used or excess fire control, fire rescue, or emergency medical services equipment to a fire department, fire district, volunteer fire department, medical emergency*

response team or the Kansas forest service if at the time of making the donation the donor believes that the equipment is serviceable or may be made serviceable. This subsection also applies to equipment that is acquired through the Federal Excess Personal Property Program established by the Federal Property and Administrative Services Act of 1949 (P.L. 81-152; 63 stat. 377; 40 United States Code Section 483). This subsection shall apply to any breathing apparatus or any mechanical or electrical device which functions to monitor, evaluate, or restore basic life functions, only if it is recertified to the manufacturer's specifications by a technician certified by the manufacturer; or

(y) any claim arising from the acceptance of a donation of fire control, fire rescue or emergency medical services equipment, if at the time of the donation the donee reasonably believes that the equipment is serviceable or may be made serviceable and if after placing the donated equipment into service, the donee maintains the donated equipment in a safe and serviceable manner.

The enumeration of exceptions to liability in this section shall not be construed to be exclusive nor as legislative intent to waive immunity from liability in the performance or failure to perform any other act or function of a discretionary nature.

Sec. 3. K.S.A. 2002 Supp. 75-6102 and 75-6104 are hereby repealed.

Sec. 4. 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 HOUSE, and passed that body

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HOUSE concurred in  
SENATE amendments \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

Passed the SENATE  
as amended \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

APPROVED \_\_\_\_\_

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