

SESSION OF 2002

SUPPLEMENTAL NOTE ON SENATE BILL NO. 432

As Amended by Senate Committee of the Whole

Brief*

SB 432 makes it a traffic infraction and a moving violation with a \$60 fine for any person who is at least 16 years of age, but less than 18 years of age, to operate any motor vehicle with more than three nonsibling minor passenger.

The restriction above shall not apply if the person is transporting more than one nonsibling minor passenger for school attendance or for participation in school sponsored activities, for church attendance or church sponsored activities, or while going to or from or in connection with the passenger's job, employment, or farm-related work.

The traffic infraction and moving violation and \$60 fine also apply to current law prohibition regarding any person issued a restricted license or a farm permit who operates any motor vehicle with nonsibling minor passengers. Under current law, these provisions are moving violations and violations now are a misdemeanor with a fine of not to exceed \$500.

The Senate Committee of the Whole raised the number of passengers allowed to three and made clarifying amendments.

Background

The bill was supported by AAA Kansas, the Superintendent of Emporia public schools, the Kansas Medical Society, State Farm Insurance Companies, and others. Nine states currently limit the number of passengers that a 16 or 17-year-old driver may have in the car. A research study compiled by the John's Hopkins School of

*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/cgi-bin/fulltext/bills.cgi>

Public Health published in the March 2000 *Journal of the American Medical Association* found a 16-year-old driver with one passenger was 39 percent more likely to be killed in a crash than if driving alone; 86 percent more likely if two passengers; and 182 percent if three or more passengers are present.

The fiscal impact of the bill cannot be determined.