

SESSION OF 2006

**SUPPLEMENTAL NOTE ON HOUSE
SUBSTITUTE FOR SENATE BILL NO. 47**

As Recommended by House Committee on
Federal and State Affairs

Brief*

House Sub. for SB 47 would expand the responsibilities of an existing group, the Kansas Advisory Group on Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (KAG), to include the study of the effectiveness of juvenile justice programs in reducing racial, geographic and other biases that may exist in the juvenile justice system. KAG would be required to annually report to the Commissioner of Juvenile Justice (Commissioner) which programs are effective in reducing biases in prevention, alternatives to detention and incarceration, and intake and assessment procedures.

The bill also would expand the Commissioner's authority to make grants to qualified counties for the development, implementation, operation and improvement of juvenile community correctional services to programs to reduce racial, geographic and other biases that may exist in the juvenile justice system. Counties would be qualified when the comprehensive plan for the county includes programs to reduce racial, geographic and other biases that may exist in the juvenile justice system, the plan receives the formal recommendation of the juvenile corrections advisory board and the plan is approved by the Commissioner.

Background

The House Committee heard HB 2724. HB 2724, as introduced, would have established a new commission, the Kansas Commission on Juvenile Justice, which would have been responsible for developing standards and criteria to be considered in the adjudication of juvenile cases, including arrest, prosecution, detention, release, and probation. During the hearing on HB 2724, a proposed substitute for HB 2724

*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>

was circulated among the members of the House Committee. The proposed substitute for HB 2724 would expand the responsibilities of an existing group, the Kansas Advisory Group on Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, to include the study of the effectiveness of juvenile justice programs in reducing racial, geographic and other biases that may exist in the juvenile justice system. At the close of the hearing, the Chairman appointed a Subcommittee on the proposed substitute for HB 2724.

The Subcommittee amended the proposed substitute for HB 2724 by striking the amendments to K.S.A. 75-7033. The amendments would have authorized the appointment of a community planning team convener and facilitator in each judicial district to study the effectiveness of juvenile justice programs in reducing racial, geographic and other biases. The Subcommittee recommended the amended language of proposed substitute for HB 2724 favorable for passage.

The House Committee deleted the original language of SB 47 and inserted the amended language of proposed House Sub. for HB 2724.

Proponents of the bill who testified at the Committee hearing included Representative Melody Miller, and representatives from the Kansas Hispanic and Latino American Affairs Commission, the Kansas African-American Affairs Commission, and the Juvenile Justice Authority.

The opponent of the bill, as it was introduced, who testified in the Committee hearing was a representative of the Sedgwick County District Attorney's Office.

The fiscal note on the bill, as introduced, states that the bill would have required additional expenditures of \$239,058, all from the State General Fund. However, according to the Juvenile Justice Authority, House Sub. for SB 47 would not have a fiscal impact. The Kansas Advisory Group on Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention is funded through a federal grant administered by the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention.