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300 SW TENTH AVENUE ■ SUITE 24-E ■ TOPEKA, KS 66612 ■ (785) 296-2321

MEMORANDUM

To: Members of the Senate Committee on Transportation

From: Adam Siebers, Assistant Revisor

Date: February 19, 2024

Subject: Senate Bill No. 426

Summary

Senate Bill No. 426 increases the penalties when an authorized emergency vehicle is stopped and a driver approaches. Drivers are required to either

(1) If the driver of the motor vehicle is traveling on a highway that consists of at least two lanes that carry traffic in the same direction of travel as that of the driver's motor vehicle, the driver shall proceed with due caution and, if possible and with due regard to the road, weather and traffic conditions, shall change lanes into a lane that is not adjacent to that of the stationary authorized emergency vehicle; or

(2) if the driver is not traveling on a highway of a type described in paragraph (1), or if the driver is traveling on a highway of that type but it is not possible to change lanes or if to do so would be unsafe, the driver shall proceed with due caution, reduce the speed of the motor vehicle and maintain a safe speed for the road, weather and traffic conditions.

Pursuant to Senate Bill No. 426, the penalty for violation if no injury or death would increase from \$195 to \$400. If the violation resulted in injury or great bodily harm to a person operating the authorized emergency vehicle as a fire department, police or ambulance would result in a severity level, person 6 felony and a fine of not less than \$1,000. If the violation resulted in death to a person operating the authorized emergency vehicle as a fire department, police or ambulance would result in a severity level 4, person felony and a fine of not less than \$7,500.