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MEMORANDUM

To: House Committee on Health and Human Services
From: Office of Revisor of Statutes
Date: March 3, 2025
Subject: Bill Brief on SB 88

Senate Bill 88 requires the state long-term care ombudsman and regional ombudsman to receive training in memory care.

Section 1 amends K.S.A. 75-7306, which is the statute setting out the powers and duties of the state long-term care ombudsman, in subsection (f) by adding to the training that the long-term care ombudsman is required to prescribe and provide. This bill adds required training on the rights and needs of long-term care residents who have dementia and strategies to care for these individuals. This training shall include:

- 1) Understanding the warning signs of this condition;
- 2) Knowledge of person-centered dementia care;
- 3) Effective communication with such residents;
- 4) Recognizing behavioral symptoms and alternatives to restraints;
- 5) Addressing specific threats to residents' safety;
- 6) Referring residents' support systems to accurate and up-to-date information; and
- 7) Protocols for connecting individuals living with dementia to local care resources and skilled dementia care professionals.

The bill passed the Senate by a vote of 40-0 and it would go into effect on July 1, 2025, upon publication in the statute book.