

SESSION OF 2025

SUPPLEMENTAL NOTE ON HOUSE BILL NO. 2140

As Recommended by House Committee on
Education

Brief*

HB 2140 would create a Drug Abuse Resistance Education (DARE) Educator position within the Office of the Attorney General. The bill would permit additional staff as necessary, within the limits of available appropriations.

Continuing law provides for a Statewide DARE Coordinator within the Office of the Attorney General, who is tasked with assisting law enforcement agencies and schools in creating DARE programs and training law enforcement officers on how to teach the DARE curriculum.

The bill would direct the Attorney General to appoint a Statewide DARE Educator who would be required to:

- Provide instruction on drug abuse using a curriculum approved by the Attorney General that includes content on fentanyl and other opioid drugs to students in public elementary and secondary schools;
- Report annually to the Legislature on any modifications to the curriculum utilized by the Attorney General and provide the names and addresses of the public schools serviced by the program; and

*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 <https://klrd.gov/>

- Perform other services and provide material and information as required to support the DARE Program in Kansas.

Background

The bill was introduced by the House Committee on Education at the request of Representative Essex.

House Committee on Education

In the House Committee hearing, Representative Essex and representatives of the Office of the Attorney General, Spring Hill Police Department, and Johnson County Sheriff's Office provided **proponent** testimony. The proponents generally discussed the inconsistent application of drug education, the opioid crisis, and the new facets of the DARE program. Conferees stated the DARE educator would be an optional resource for schools.

Written-only proponent testimony was provided by Kansas' Statewide DARE Coordinator and a representative of DARE America.

No other testimony was provided.

Fiscal Information

According to the fiscal note prepared by the Division of the Budget on the bill, the Office of the Attorney General indicated that it would be required to hire a 1.0 DARE Educator position. For FY 2026, the agency would require \$104,468 from the State General Fund. Of that amount, \$75,298 would be used to hire 1.0 DARE Educator position and \$29,170 would be for training, travel, and supplies for the new position. For FY 2027, the required amount would increase to \$109,691 from the State General Fund to account

for changes in benefit costs and inflation for operating expenditures.

The State Department of Education indicated the bill would not have a fiscal effect for the Department.

Any fiscal effect associated with the bill is not reflected in *The FY 2026 Governor's Budget Report*.

Education; Attorney General; drug abuse resistance education; DARE Program