

SENATE BILL No. 280

AN ACT concerning commitment of sexually violent predators; relating to evaluations; testimony of expert witnesses; amending K.S.A. 59-29a05 and K.S.A. 2011 Supp. 59-29a06 and repealing the existing sections.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Kansas:

Section 1. K.S.A. 59-29a05 is hereby amended to read as follows: 59-29a05. (a) Upon filing of a petition under K.S.A. 59-29a04, the judge shall determine whether probable cause exists to believe that the person named in the petition is a sexually violent predator. If such determination is made, the judge shall direct that person be taken into custody.

(b) Within 72 hours after a person is taken into custody pursuant to subsection (a), such person shall be provided with notice of, and an opportunity to appear in person at, a hearing to contest probable cause as to whether the detained person is a sexually violent predator. At this hearing the court shall: (1) Verify the detainer's identity; and (2) determine whether probable cause exists to believe that the person is a sexually violent predator. The state may rely upon the petition and supplement the petition with additional documentary evidence or live testimony.

(c) At the probable cause hearing as provided in subsection (b), the detained person shall have the following rights in addition to the rights previously specified: (1) To be represented by counsel; (2) to present evidence on such person's behalf; (3) to cross-examine witnesses who testify against such person; and (4) to view and copy all petitions and reports in the court file.

(d) If the probable cause determination is made, the court shall ~~direct~~ *order* that the person be transferred to an appropriate secure facility, including, but not limited to, a county jail, for an evaluation as to whether the person is a sexually violent predator. The evaluation *ordered by the court* shall be conducted by a person deemed to be professionally qualified to conduct such an examination.

(e) *The person conducting the evaluation ordered by the court pursuant to this section shall notify the detained person of the following: (1) The nature and purpose of the evaluation; and (2) that the evaluation will not be confidential and that any statements made by the detained person, and any conclusions drawn by the evaluator, will be disclosed to the court, the detained person's attorney, the prosecutor and the trier of fact at any proceeding conducted under K.S.A. 59-29a01 et seq., and amendments thereto.*

Sec. 2. K.S.A. 2011 Supp. 59-29a06 is hereby amended to read as follows: 59-29a06. (a) Within 60 days after the completion of any hearing held pursuant to K.S.A. 59-29a05, and amendments thereto, the court shall conduct a trial to determine whether the person is a sexually violent predator. The trial may be continued upon the request of either party and a showing of good cause, or by the court on its own motion in the due administration of justice, and when the respondent will not be substantially prejudiced.

(b) At all stages of the proceedings under K.S.A. 59-29a01 *et seq.*, and amendments thereto, any person subject to K.S.A. 59-29a01 *et seq.*, and amendments thereto, shall be entitled to the assistance of counsel, and if the person is indigent, the court shall appoint counsel to assist such person. Whenever any person is subjected to an examination under K.S.A. 59-29a01 *et seq.*, and amendments thereto, such person may retain experts or professional persons to perform an examination of such person's behalf. When the person wishes to be examined by a qualified expert or professional person of such person's own choice, such examiner shall be permitted to have reasonable access to the person for the purpose of such examination, as well as to all relevant medical and psychological records and reports. In the case of a person who is indigent, the court, upon the person's request, shall determine whether the services are necessary and reasonable compensation for such services. If the court determines that the services are necessary and the expert or professional person's requested compensation for such services is reasonable, the court shall assist the person in obtaining an expert or professional person to perform an examination or participate in the trial on the person's behalf. The court shall approve payment for such services upon the filing of a certified claim for compensation supported by a written statement specifying the time expended, services rendered, expenses incurred on behalf of the person and compensation received in the same case or for the same services from any other source.

(c) Notwithstanding K.S.A. 60-456, and amendments thereto, at any ~~trial~~ proceeding conducted under K.S.A. 59-29a01 *et seq.*, and amendments thereto, the parties shall be permitted to call expert witnesses. The facts or data in the particular case upon which an expert bases an opinion or inference may be those perceived by or made known to the expert at or before the hearing. If the facts or data are of a type reasonably relied upon by experts in the particular field in forming opinions or inferences upon the subject, such facts and data need not be admissible in evidence in order for the opinion or inference to be admitted.

(d) The person, the attorney general, or the judge shall have the right to demand that the trial be before a jury. Such demand for the trial to be before a jury shall be filed, in writing, at least four days prior to trial. Number and selection of jurors shall be determined as provided in K.S.A. 22-3403, and amendments thereto. If no demand is made, the trial shall be before the court.

(e) A jury shall consist of 12 jurors unless the parties agree in writing with the approval of the court that the jury shall consist of any number of jurors less than 12 jurors. The person and the attorney general shall each have eight peremptory challenges, or in the case of a jury of less than 12 jurors, a proportionally equal number of peremptory challenges.

(f) The provisions of this section are not jurisdictional, and failure to comply with such provisions in no way prevents the attorney general from proceeding against a person otherwise subject to the provision of K.S.A. 59-29a01 *et seq.*, and amendments thereto.

Sec. 3. K.S.A. 59-29a05 and K.S.A. 2011 Supp. 59-29a06 are hereby repealed.

Sec. 4. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its publication in the statute book.

I hereby certify that the above BILL originated in the SENATE, and passed that body

President of the Senate.

Secretary of the Senate.

Passed the HOUSE _____

Speaker of the House.

Chief Clerk of the House.

APPROVED _____

Governor.