

SESSION OF 2012

**SUPPLEMENTAL NOTE ON HOUSE BILL NO. 2496**

As Amended by House Committee on  
Corrections and Juvenile Justice

**Brief\***

HB 2496 would amend the definition of "police officer" and "law enforcement officer" within the Kansas Law Enforcement Training Act to include special investigators of the Juvenile Justice Authority (JJA) and any JJA employee employed solely to perform correctional, administrative, or operational duties related to juvenile correctional facilities. Further, it would give the Commissioner of JJA authority to appoint and designate special investigators and to adopt rules and regulations to govern training required for special investigators. The special investigators would have the power and authority of peace and police officers and the authority to make arrests; conduct searches and seizures; maintain custody, security, and control of any person in the Commissioner's custody; and generally enforce State criminal law. Each special investigator would be vested with law enforcement authority, be in the classified service under the Kansas Civil Service Act, and be subject to the requirements of the Kansas Law Enforcement Training Act. To carry a firearm, special investigators would have to complete the required law enforcement officer training courses.

**Background**

In the House Committee on Corrections and Juvenile Justice, a representative of the Juvenile Justice Authority (JJA) appeared in support of HB 2496. No opponents offered testimony. The Committee adopted an amendment offered by

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\*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>

JJA, which gives authority to the Commissioner of JJA to appoint and designate special investigators and to adopt rules and regulations concerning their training. Additionally, the amendment further defines the scope of the special investigator's authority.

The fiscal note for HB 2496, as introduced, indicates that training costs could be absorbed within JJA's existing resources.