

SESSION OF 2012

SUPPLEMENTAL NOTE ON SENATE BILL NO. 69

As Amended by Senate Committee on
Education

Brief*

SB 69 would amend KSA 72-8256 to require the board of education of each school district to adopt a plan to address bullying through a process that includes representation of parents, school employees, school administrators, and the community through the school site councils. The bill would require such plan be published on the school district's website with a link prominently posted on the home page of such website and distributed annually to parents and guardians who have children enrolled in a school within the school district. Finally, the bill would require the plans be submitted to the Kansas Department of Education and kept on file in the Department.

Background

SB 69, as introduced, would have amended KSA 72-8256 to include definitions of "dating partner" and "dating violence" and would have required each school district to submit its plan to address bullying to the Kansas Department of Education.

The Senate Committee on Education held a hearing on SB 69, as introduced, on February 16, 2011. Representatives from the Kansas Coalition Against Sexual and Domestic Violence, Kansas Equality Coalition, as well as Miss Leavenworth County 2011, appeared as proponents to SB

*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>

69, as introduced. Representatives from the Kansas Association of School Boards; Kansas City, Kansas Public Schools; and Wichita Public Schools appeared as neutrals to SB 69, as introduced.

The Senate Committee on Education amended the bill to delete the definitions of "dating partner" and "dating violence" and removed references to those terms. The Senate Committee on Education also amended the bill to require each school district board of education to adopt a plan to address bullying through a process that includes representation of parents, school employees, school administrators, and the community through the school site councils. Additionally, the Senate Committee on Education amended the bill to require each school district to publish this plan on the school district's website and to distribute this plan annually to parents and guardians of students enrolled in the school district. These amendments were largely drawn from ideas proposed in SB 278.

According to the fiscal note prepared by the Division of the Budget, the Kansas Department of Education reported the enactment of SB 69, as introduced, would have no fiscal effect.