

SESSION OF 2014

SUPPLEMENTAL NOTE ON HOUSE BILL NO. 2448

As Recommended by House Committee on
Judiciary

Brief*

HB 2448 would amend the crime of interference with the judicial process. Specifically, it would be a class A misdemeanor for a person to knowingly make available personal information about a judge or the judge's immediate family member, if dissemination of such information poses an imminent and serious threat to the judge's safety or the safety of such judge's immediate family member, and the person making the information available knows or reasonably should know of the imminent and serious threat. Upon a second or subsequent conviction, this crime would be a severity level nine, person felony. "Personal information" would be defined as a judge's home address or telephone number; personal mobile telephone or pager number; personal e-mail address; photos of the judge, an immediate family member, or the judge's home or motor vehicle; or an immediate family member's motor vehicle, place of employment, child care or day care facility, or public or private K-12 school. The bill also would define "immediate family member" and "judge."

Background

In the House Judiciary Committee, representatives of the Kansas District Judges Association and the Office of Judicial Administration offered testimony in support of the bill.

The fiscal note prepared by the Division of the Budget states that, according to the Kansas Sentencing Commission,

*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>

the bill may have an effect on prison admissions, prison bed space, the probation population, and the workload of the commission; however the precise effect is unknown. The Office of Judicial Administration predicts the bill could increase the number of cases filed relating to interference with the judicial process, as well as added revenue from docket fees. The precise effect of the increased filings and docket fees cannot be determined, however.