

SESSION OF 2015

SUPPLEMENTAL NOTE ON HOUSE BILL NO. 2022

As Amended by House Committee on Judiciary

Brief*

HB 2022 would amend the statute setting forth the qualifications required of sheriffs. Specifically, the bill would remove language disqualifying a person from holding the office of sheriff if the person has been convicted of a violation of any federal or state laws or city ordinances relating to gambling, liquor, or narcotics. It would add language, however, disqualifying any person who has been convicted of a misdemeanor within five years immediately preceding the date of election or appointment.

The bill would remove a specific 320-hour training requirement and clarify the training and testing required of sheriffs. The bill would change the salary of a newly elected sheriff undergoing law enforcement training prior to taking office from the salary of a deputy to the salary of the existing sheriff. The bill would specify that references to “commission” within the statute mean the Kansas Commission on Peace Officers’ Standards and Training.

The remaining changes in the bill reflect non-substantive reorganization of the existing standards.

Background

In the House Judiciary Committee, a representative of the Kansas Sheriffs Association, which requested introduction of the bill, testified in support of the bill, stating the bill was

*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>

requested to clean up the statute and bring it in line with current requirements for all Kansas law enforcement officers.

The House Committee amended the bill to include language disqualifying a person from the office of sheriff if he or she has been convicted of a misdemeanor within five years immediately preceding the date of election or appointment.

According to the fiscal note prepared by the Division of the Budget, the Kansas Association of Counties indicates the bill would increase the salary of anyone training to take the office of sheriff from a deputy's salary to the current sheriff's salary. As training lasts only two weeks, however, the fiscal effect on counties would be minimal.