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MEMORANDUM

To: Senate Committee on Judiciary

From: Natalie Scott, Assistant Revisor of Statutes

Jason Thompson, Senior Assistant Revisor of Statutes

Date: March 13, 2018

Subject: Bill Brief for HB 2523, as amended by House Committee

HB 2523 amends the qualifications for the office of sheriff.

The bill amends K.S.A. 19-801b to provide that no person can be eligible to hold the office of sheriff if that person has been convicted of a misdemeanor related to gambling, liquor or narcotics within the previous 5 years; the bill, as introduced, would have made this look back period 10 years. The bill would maintain current law that no person can be eligible to hold the office of sheriff if that person has ever been convicted of a misdemeanor crime of domestic violence or a felony. The person would still be required to be a U.S. citizen and a qualified elector of the county, and to have graduated from high school or obtained the equivalent of a high school education.

The bill also provides that the person shall either: (1) Possess current full-time certification from the commission; (2) if the person has let their certification lapse, pass the scheduled written competency test and firearms proficiency qualifications course or complete the next scheduled full-time basic training course; or (3) if the person has never obtained full-time certification by the commission, complete the next scheduled full-time basic training course. Unless the commission waives these training requirements, any person elected or appointed to the office of sheriff shall complete the training requirements or forfeit the office.