

CORRECTED
SESSION OF 2017

**SUPPLEMENTAL NOTE ON SUBSTITUTE FOR SENATE
BILL NO. 53**

As Recommended by Senate Committee on
Federal and State Affairs

Brief*

Sub. for SB 53 would allow state psychiatric institutions to prohibit the carrying of a handgun or other firearm in secured areas of buildings located on its premises.

“State psychiatric institution” would be defined in the bill to mean Larned State Hospital, Osawatomie State Hospital, Rainbow Mental Health Facility, Winfield State Hospital and Training Center, Parsons State Hospital and Training Center, and the Kansas Neurological Institute.

In current law, such prohibitions are allowed for corrections facilities, jail facilities, and law enforcement agencies. An exemption in current law allowing the entities defined as state psychiatric institutions to prohibit the carrying of firearms is set to expire July 1, 2017.

Background

The bill was introduced by the Senate Committee on Federal and State Affairs. The bill, as introduced, would have removed the sunset date of July 1, 2017, for state or municipal buildings to be exempted from allowing concealed handguns in the buildings without adequate security measures.

*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>

At the Senate Committee hearing, Senators Bollier, Faust-Goudeau, Francisco, and Hawk presented testimony in favor of the bill. In addition, representatives of the Association of University Professors, University of Kansas Chapter; Brady Campaign to Prevent Gun Violence; Johnson County Community College Faculty Association; Kansas Association of Counties; Kansas City Kansas Community College; Kansas Hospital Association; Kansas Interfaith Action; Kansas National Education Association; Kansas PTA; Leading Edge Kansas; the League of Kansas Municipalities; MainStream Coalition; Moms Demand Action; and 15 members of the public provided testimony in favor of the bill.

Representatives of the City of Lawrence; Community Health Center of Southeast Kansas; Johnson County Community College; Kansas Association for the Medically Underserved; Kansas Association of Technical Colleges; Kansas Center for Assisted Living; Kansas Health Care Association; Overland Park Chamber of Commerce; the University of Kansas Hospital; and 85 members of the public provided written-only testimony in favor of the bill.

Testimony opposing the bill was provided by Senator Fitzgerald, a representative of the National Rifle Association; a representative of the Kansas State Rifle Association; former Senator Forrest Knox; and two members of the public. Two members of the public also provided written-only testimony against the bill.

No neutral testimony was provided.

The Senate Committee created a substitute bill by removing the original language of the bill and inserting the provisions of KSA 2016 Supp. 75-7c20. The Senate Committee then adopted amendments that would add “state psychiatric institution” to the facilities that may prohibit the carrying of a handgun or other firearm concealed or unconcealed into any secure area of a building, except in those areas outside of a secure area and readily accessible

to the public. The Senate Committee also added the definition of “state psychiatric institution.”

The fiscal note on the bill, as introduced, would no longer apply to the substitute bill passed by the Senate Committee on Federal and State Affairs. An updated fiscal note was not immediately available.