

KANSAS OFFICE *of*  
**REVISOR *of* STATUTES**

LEGISLATURE *of* THE STATE *of* KANSAS  
*Legislative Attorneys transforming ideas into legislation.*

300 SW TENTH AVENUE ■ SUITE 24-E ■ TOPEKA, KS 66612 ■ (785) 296-2321

**MEMORANDUM**

To: Members of the Senate Committee on Transportation

From: Adam Siebers, Assistant Revisor

Date: February 24, 2021

Subject: Senate Bill No. 131

**Summary**

Senate Bill No. 131 provides for the regulation of funeral processions.

**Section 1** – creates new definitions for: (1) a funeral procession; (2) a funeral lead vehicle; and (3) a funeral escort. Funeral lead vehicles are allowed under current law in K.S.A. 8-1723 to equip flashing head lamps when the vehicle is serving as a funeral lead vehicle.

**Section 2** –allows funeral processions to go through intersections when the funeral lead vehicle proceeds regardless of the traffic signals or right-of-way provisions. Funeral processions must: (1) yield to an authorized emergency vehicle with lights and sirens on; (2) yield when instructed by the police; (3) exercise due care to avoid collisions; and (4) stay within 300 feet of the next car in the procession to proceed through an intersection.

**Section 3** – requires processions to follow closely to other vehicles in a procession as is practical and safe. In accordance with K.S.A. 8-1523, state law requiring drivers to maintain a certain distance between another driver will not apply to funeral processions. And Section 3 also requires funeral procession vehicles to display lighted head lamps and tail lights or flashing hazard lights if so equipped.

**Section 4** – states that cities and counties may require a funeral procession notification to law enforcement. Further, the section allows a city or county to adopt regulations that are not in conflict with these new statutory provisions.