

HOUSE BILL No. 2574

AN ACT concerning the attorney general; relating to the crime victims compensation board; awarding of compensation for mental health counseling; increasing the amount of certain awards; changing the definition of "crime scene cleanup"; amending K.S.A. 2021 Supp. 74-7301 and 74-7305 and repealing the existing sections.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Kansas:

Section 1. K.S.A. 2021 Supp. 74-7301 is hereby amended to read as follows: 74-7301. As used in this act:

(a) "Allowance expense" means reasonable charges incurred for reasonably needed products, services and accommodations, including those for medical care, rehabilitation, rehabilitative occupational training and other remedial treatment and care and for the replacement of items of clothing or bedding which were seized for evidence. "Allowance expense" includes a total charge not in excess of ~~\$5,000~~ \$7,500 for expenses in any way related to funeral, cremation or burial; but "allowance expense" shall not include that portion of a charge for a room in a hospital, clinic, convalescent or nursing home or any other institution engaged in providing nursing care and related services, in excess of a reasonable and customary charge for semi-private accommodations, unless other accommodations are medically required. "Allowance expense" includes a total charge not in excess of ~~\$1,000~~ \$2,500 for expenses in any way related to crime scene cleanup.

(b) "Board" means the crime victims compensation board established under K.S.A. 74-7303, and amendments thereto.

(c) "Claimant" means any of the following persons claiming compensation under this act:

- (1) A victim;
- (2) a dependent of a deceased victim;
- (3) a third person other than a collateral source; or
- (4) an authorized person acting on behalf of any of them.

(d) "Collateral source" means the net financial benefit, after deduction of taxes, legal fees, costs, expenses of litigation, liens, offsets, credits or other deductions, from a source of benefits or advantages for economic loss otherwise reparable under this act which the victim or claimant has received, or which is readily available to the victim or claimant, from:

- (1) The offender;
- (2) the government of the United States or any agency thereof, a state or any of its political subdivisions or an instrumentality or two or more states, unless the law providing for the benefits or advantages makes them excess or secondary to benefits under this act;
- (3) social security, medicare and medicaid;
- (4) state-required temporary nonoccupational disability insurance;
- (5) workers' compensation;
- (6) wage continuation programs of any employer;
- (7) proceeds of a contract of insurance payable to the victim for loss which the victim sustained because of the criminally injurious conduct;
- (8) a contract providing prepaid hospital and other health care services or benefits for disability; or
- (9) damages awarded in a tort action.

(e) "Criminally injurious conduct" means conduct that: (1) (A) Occurs or is attempted in this state or occurs to a person whose domicile is in Kansas who is the victim of a violent crime which occurs in another state, possession, or territory of the United States of America may make an application for compensation if:

(i) The crimes would be compensable had it occurred in the state of Kansas; and

(ii) the places the crimes occurred are states, possessions or territories of the United States of America not having eligible crime victim compensation programs;

(B) poses a substantial threat or personal injury or death; and

(C) either is punishable by fine, imprisonment or death or would be so punishable but for the fact that the person engaging in the conduct

lacked capacity to commit the crime under the laws of this state; or

(2) is an act of terrorism, as defined in 18 U.S.C. § 2331, or a violent crime that posed a substantial threat or caused personal injury or death, committed outside of the United States against a person whose domicile is in Kansas, except that criminally injurious conduct does not include any conduct resulting in injury or death sustained as a member of the United States armed forces while serving on active duty.

"Criminally injurious conduct" does not include conduct arising out of the ownership, maintenance or use of a motor vehicle, except for violations of K.S.A. 8-2,144 or 8-1567, and amendments thereto, or violations of municipal ordinances or county resolutions prohibiting the acts prohibited by those statutes, or violations of K.S.A. 8-1602, and amendments thereto, K.S.A. 21-3404, 21-3405 or 21-3414, prior to their repeal, or K.S.A. 2021 Supp. 21-5405, 21-5406 or 21-5413(b), and amendments thereto, or when such conduct was intended to cause personal injury or death.

(f) "Dependent" means a natural person wholly or partially dependent upon the victim for care or support, and includes a child of the victim born after the victim's death.

(g) "Dependent's economic loss" means loss after decedent's death of contributions of things of economic value to the decedent's dependents, not including services they would have received from the decedent if the decedent had not suffered the fatal injury, less expenses of the dependents avoided by reason of decedent's death.

(h) "Dependent's replacement services loss" means loss reasonably incurred by dependents after decedent's death in obtaining ordinary and necessary services in lieu of those the decedent would have performed for their benefit if the decedent had not suffered the fatal injury, less expenses of the dependents avoided by reason of decedent's death and not subtracted in calculating dependent's economic loss.

(i) "Economic loss" means economic detriment consisting only of allowable expense, work loss, replacement services loss and, if injury causes death, dependent's economic loss and dependent's replacement service loss. Noneconomic detriment is not loss, but economic detriment is loss although caused by pain and suffering or physical impairment.

(j) "Noneconomic detriment" means pain, suffering, inconvenience, physical impairment and nonpecuniary damage.

(k) "Replacement services loss" means expenses reasonably incurred in obtaining ordinary and necessary services in lieu of those the injured person would have performed, not for income, but for the benefit of self or family, if such person had not been injured.

(l) "Work loss" means loss of income from work the injured person would have performed if such person had not been injured, and expenses reasonably incurred by such person in obtaining services in lieu of those the person would have performed for income, reduced by any income from substitute work actually performed by such person or by income such person would have earned in available appropriate substitute work that the person was capable of performing but unreasonably failed to undertake.

(m) "Victim" means a person who suffers personal injury or death as a result of:

- (1) Criminally injurious conduct;
- (2) the good faith effort of any person to prevent criminally injurious conduct;
- (3) the good faith effort of any person to apprehend a person suspected of engaging in criminally injurious conduct; or
- (4) witnessing a violent crime when the person was 16 years of age or younger at the time the crime was committed.

(n) "Crime scene cleanup" means removal of blood, stains, odors or other debris caused by the crime or the processing of the crime scene *and may include replacement of materials that were removed because such materials were biohazardous or were damaged as part of evidence collection.*

Sec. 2. K.S.A. 2021 Supp. 74-7305 is hereby amended to read as follows: 74-7305. (a) An application for compensation shall be made in the manner and form prescribed by the crime victims compensation division created by K.S.A. 75-773, and amendments thereto.

(b) (1) Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, compensation may not be awarded unless an application has been filed with the division within two years of the reporting of the incident to law enforcement officials if the victim was less than 16 years of age and the injury or death is the result of any of the following crimes:

(A) Enticement of a child as defined in K.S.A. 21-3509, prior to its repeal;

(B) human trafficking as defined in K.S.A. 21-3446, prior to its repeal, or K.S.A. 2021 Supp. 21-5426(a), and amendments thereto;

(C) aggravated human trafficking as defined in K.S.A. 21-3447, prior to its repeal, or K.S.A. 2021 Supp. 21-5426(b), and amendments thereto; or

(D) a sexually violent crime, as defined in K.S.A. 22-3717, and amendments thereto.

(2) Compensation for mental health counseling may be awarded to a:

(A) Victim, as defined in K.S.A. 74-7301(m)(4), and amendments thereto, if the board finds there was good cause for the failure to file within the time specified in this subsection and the claim is filed before the victim turns 19 years of age; ~~or~~

(B) victim of a sexually violent crime, as defined in K.S.A. 22-3717, and amendments thereto, if the board finds there was good cause for the failure to file within the time specified in this subsection and:

(i) The claim is filed with the division within 10 years of the date such crime was committed; or

(ii) if the victim was less than 18 years of age at the time such crime was committed, the claim is filed within 10 years of the date the victim turns 18 years of age;

(C) *victim who is or will be required to testify in a sexually violent predator commitment, pursuant to article 29a of chapter 59 of the Kansas Statutes Annotated, and amendments thereto, of an offender who victimized the victim or the victim on whose behalf the claim is made, if the claim is made within two years of such testimony; or*

(D) *victim who is notified that DNA testing of a sexual assault kit or other evidence has revealed a DNA profile of a suspected offender who victimized the victim or the victim on whose behalf the claim is made, or is notified of the identification of a suspected offender who victimized the victim or the victim on whose behalf the claim is made, if the claim is made within two years of such notification.*

(3) For all other incidents of criminally injurious conduct, compensation may not be awarded unless the claim has been filed with the division within two years after the injury or death upon which the claim is based.

(c) Compensation may not be awarded to a claimant who was the offender or an accomplice of the offender and may not be awarded to another person if the award would unjustly benefit the offender or accomplice.

(d) Compensation otherwise payable to a claimant shall be reduced or denied, to the extent, if any that the:

(1) Economic loss upon which the claimant's claim is based is recouped from other persons, including collateral sources;

(2) board deems reasonable because of the contributory misconduct of the claimant or of a victim through whom the claimant claims; or

(3) board deems reasonable, because the victim was likely engaging in, or attempting to engage in, unlawful activity at the time of the crime upon which the claim for compensation is based. This subsection shall not be construed to reduce or deny compensation to a victim of domestic abuse or sexual assault.

(e) Compensation may be awarded only if the board finds that

unless the claimant is awarded compensation the claimant will suffer financial stress as the result of economic loss otherwise reparable. A claimant suffers financial stress only if the claimant cannot maintain the claimant's customary level of health, safety and education for self and dependents without undue financial hardship. In making its determination of financial stress, the board shall consider all relevant factors, including:

- (1) The number of the claimant's dependents;
- (2) the usual living expenses of the claimant and the claimant's family;
- (3) the special needs of the claimant and the claimant's dependents;
- (4) the claimant's income and potential earning capacity; and
- (5) the claimant's resources.

(f) Compensation may not be awarded unless the criminally injurious conduct resulting in injury or death was reported to a law enforcement officer within 72 hours after its occurrence or the board finds there was good cause for the failure to report within that time.

(g) The board, upon finding that the claimant or victim has not fully cooperated with appropriate law enforcement agencies, may deny, withdraw or reduce an award of compensation.

~~(h) Except in K.S.A. 21-3602 or 21-3603, prior to their repeal, or K.S.A. 2021 Supp. 21-5604, and amendments thereto, or cases of sex offenses established in article 35 of chapter 21, of the Kansas Statutes Annotated, prior to their repeal, or article 55 of chapter 21 of the Kansas Statutes Annotated, and amendments thereto, K.S.A. 2021 Supp. 21-6419 through 21-6422, and amendments thereto, or human trafficking or aggravated human trafficking, as defined in K.S.A. 21-3446 or 21-3447, prior to their repeal, or K.S.A. 2021 Supp. 21-5426, and amendments thereto, compensation may not be awarded if the economic loss is less than \$100.~~

(h) Compensation for work loss, replacement services loss, dependent's economic loss and dependent's replacement service loss may not exceed \$400 per week or actual loss, whichever is less.

(i) Compensation payable to a victim and to all other claimants sustaining economic loss because of injury to or death of that victim may not exceed \$25,000 in the aggregate.

~~(j)~~ Nothing in subsections (d)(2), (d)(3), (f) and (g) shall be construed to reduce or deny compensation to a victim of human trafficking or aggravated human trafficking, as defined in K.S.A. 2021 Supp. 21-5426, and amendments thereto, or commercial sexual exploitation of a child, as defined in K.S.A. 2021 Supp. 21-6422, and amendments thereto, who was 18 years of age or younger at the time the crime was committed and is otherwise qualified for compensation.

Sec. 3. K.S.A. 2021 Supp. 74-7301 and 74-7305 are hereby repealed.

Sec. 4. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its publication in the statute book.

I hereby certify that the above BILL originated in the HOUSE, and passed that body

Speaker of the House.

Chief Clerk of the House.

Passed the SENATE _____

President of the Senate.

Secretary of the Senate.

APPROVED _____

Governor.