Session of 2023

SENATE BILL No. 5

By Senator Steffen

12-29

AN ACT concerning health and healthcare; related to the Kansas
 telemedicine act; prohibiting the prescribing of medications intended to
 induce an abortion via telemedicine; restricting the power of the
 governor during a state of emergency to alter such abortion
 prohibitions; amending K.S.A. 40-2,215 and K.S.A. 2022 Supp. 48-925
 and repealing the existing sections.

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

9 Section 1. K.S.A. 40-2,215 is hereby amended to read as follows: 40-10 2,215. (*a*) Nothing in the Kansas telemedicine act shall be construed to 11 authorize the delivery of any abortion procedure via telemedicine.

(b) As used in this section, "abortion procedure" includes theprescribing of drugs intended to induce an abortion.

(c) The provisions of this section shall not be altered or suspended
 during any state of disaster emergency declared by the governor pursuant
 to K.S.A. 48-924, and amendments thereto.

Sec. 2. K.S.A. 2022 Supp. 48-925 is hereby amended to read as 17 18 follows: 48-925. (a) During any state of disaster emergency declared under 19 K.S.A. 48-924, and amendments thereto, the governor shall be 20 commander-in-chief of the organized and unorganized militia and of all 21 other forces available for emergency duty. To the greatest extent 22 practicable, the governor shall delegate or assign command authority by 23 prior arrangement, embodied in appropriate executive orders or in rules 24 and regulations of the adjutant general, but nothing shall restrict the 25 authority of the governor to do so by executive orders issued at the time of 26 a disaster.

27 (b) Under the provisions of this act and for the implementation of this 28 act, the governor may issue executive orders to exercise the powers 29 conferred by subsection (c) that have the force and effect of law during the 30 period of a state of disaster emergency declared under K.S.A. 48-924(b), 31 and amendments thereto, or as provided in K.S.A. 2022 Supp. 48-924b, 32 and amendments thereto. The chairperson of the legislative coordinating 33 council shall call a meeting of the council to occur within 24 hours of the 34 issuance of an executive order issued pursuant to this section for the 35 purposes of reviewing such order. Such executive orders shall be null and 36 void after the period of a state of disaster emergency has ended. Such

executive orders may be revoked at any time by concurrent resolution of
 the legislature or, when the legislature is not in session or is adjourned
 during session for three or more days, such orders may be revoked by the
 legislative coordinating council with the affirmative vote of five members
 thereof.

6 (c) Except as provided in K.S.A. 2022 Supp. 48-924b, and 7 amendments thereto, during a state of disaster emergency declared under 8 K.S.A. 48-924, and amendments thereto, in addition to any other powers 9 conferred upon the governor by law and subject to the provisions of 10 subsection (d), the governor may:

(1) Suspend the provisions of any regulatory statute prescribing the procedures for conduct of state business, or the orders or rules and regulations of any state agency which implements such statute, if strict compliance with the provisions of such statute, order or rule and regulation would prevent, hinder or delay in any way necessary action in coping with the disaster;

(2) utilize all available resources of the state government and of eachpolitical subdivision as reasonably necessary to cope with the disaster;

(3) transfer the supervision, personnel or functions of state
 departments and agencies or units thereof for the purpose of performing or
 facilitating emergency management activities;

(4) subject to any applicable requirements for compensation under
 K.S.A. 48-933, and amendments thereto, commandeer or utilize any
 private property if the governor finds such action necessary to cope with
 the disaster;

(5) direct and compel the evacuation of all or part of the population
from any area of the state stricken or threatened by a disaster, if the
governor deems this action necessary for the preservation of life or other
disaster mitigation, response or recovery;

30 (6) prescribe routes, modes of transportation and destinations in31 connection with such evacuation;

(7) control ingress and egress of persons and animals to and from a
 disaster area, the movement of persons and animals within the area and the
 occupancy by persons and animals of premises therein;

(8) suspend or limit the sale, dispensing or transportation of alcoholic
 beverages, explosives and combustibles;

(9) make provision for the availability and use of temporaryemergency housing;

(10) require and direct the cooperation and assistance of state andlocal governmental agencies and officials; and

(11) perform and exercise such other functions, powers and duties in
conformity with the constitution and the bill of rights of the state of
Kansas and with the statutes of the state of Kansas, except any regulatory

statute specifically suspended under the authority of subsection (c)(1), as
 are necessary to promote and secure the safety and protection of the
 civilian population.

4 (d) The governor shall not have the power or authority under the 5 provisions of the Kansas emergency management act or any other law to:

6 (1) Limit or otherwise restrict the sale, purchase, transfer, ownership, 7 storage, carrying or transporting of firearms or ammunition, or any 8 component or combination thereof, including any components or 9 combination thereof used in the manufacture of firearms or ammunition, or 10 seize or authorize the seizure of any firearms or ammunition, or any component or combination thereto, except as otherwise permitted by state 11 12 or federal law pursuant to subsection (c)(8) or any other executive 13 authority;

(2) alter or modify any provisions of the election laws of the state
 including, but not limited to, the method by which elections are conducted
 or the timing of such elections; or

17 (3) prohibit attending or conducting any religious service or worship18 service in a church, synagogue or place of worship; or

19 (4) alter or modify the provisions of K.S.A. 40-2,215, and 20 amendments thereto, prohibiting abortions via telemedicine.

(e) The governor shall exercise the powers conferred by subsection
(c) by issuance of executive orders under subsection (b). Each executive
order issued pursuant to the authority granted by subsection (b) shall
specify the provision or provisions of subsection (c) by specific reference
to each paragraph of subsection (c) that confers the power under which the
executive order was issued. The adjutant general, subject to the direction
of the governor, shall administer such executive orders.

28 (f) (1) Any party aggrieved by an executive order issued pursuant to this section that has the effect of substantially burdening or inhibiting the 29 30 gathering or movement of individuals or the operation of any religious, 31 civic, business or commercial activity, whether for-profit or not-for-profit, may file a civil action in the district court of the county in which such 32 33 party resides or in the district court of Shawnee county, Kansas, within 30 34 days after the issuance of such executive order. Notwithstanding any order 35 issued pursuant to K.S.A. 2022 Supp. 20-172(a), and amendments thereto, 36 the court shall conduct a hearing within 72 hours after receipt of a petition 37 in any such action. The court shall grant the request for relief unless the 38 court finds such executive order is narrowly tailored to respond to the state 39 of disaster emergency and uses the least restrictive means to achieve such 40 purpose. The court shall issue an order on such petition within seven days 41 after the hearing is conducted. If the court does not issue an order on such 42 petition within seven days, the relief requested in the petition shall be 43 granted.

1 (2) Relief under this section shall not include a stay or injunction 2 concerning the contested executive order that applies beyond the county in 3 which the petition was filed.

4 (3) The supreme court may adopt emergency rules of procedure to 5 facilitate the efficient adjudication of any hearing requested under this 6 subsection, including, but not limited to, rules for consolidation of similar 7 hearings.

8 (g) (1) The board of county commissioners of any county may issue 9 an order relating to public health that includes provisions that are less 10 stringent than the provisions of an executive order effective statewide 11 issued by the governor. Any board of county commissioners issuing such 12 an order must make the following findings and include such findings in the 13 order:

14 (A) The board has consulted with the local health officer or other 15 local health officials regarding the governor's executive order;

(B) following such consultation, implementation of the full scope of
 the provisions in the governor's executive order are not necessary to
 protect the public health and safety of the county; and

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(C) all other relevant findings to support the board's decision.

(2) If the board of county commissioners of a county issues an order
 pursuant to paragraph (1), such order shall operate in the county in lieu of
 the governor's executive order.

23 Sec. 3. K.S.A. 40-2,215 and K.S.A. 2022 Supp. 48-925 are hereby 24 repealed.

25 Sec. 4. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its 26 publication in the statute book.