

SESSION OF 2018

**SUPPLEMENTAL NOTE ON HOUSE BILL NO. 2465**

As Amended by Senate Committee on Federal  
and State Affairs

**Brief\***

HB 2465 would add all employees of the Kansas Commission on Veterans' Affairs Office (KCVAO) to the definition of "safety sensitive positions" found in law.

The Director of the Division of Personnel Services, Department of Administration, has the authority to establish and implement drug screening programs for safety sensitive positions, including the ability to screen applicants for illegal drug use upon a conditional offer of employment and to screen employees upon reasonable suspicion of illegal drug use. Currently, only employees of the State's veterans' homes are subject to a drug screening upon reasonable suspicion of illegal drug use.

Current "safety sensitive positions" include:

- All state law enforcement officers authorized to carry firearms;
- All state corrections officers;
- All state parole officers;
- Heads of state agencies who are appointed by the Governor and employees on the Governor's staff;
- All employees with access to secure facilities of a correctional institution;
- All employees of a juvenile correctional facility;

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\*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>

- All employees within an institution of mental health; and
- All employees with access to a secured biological laboratory in the Office of Laboratory Services, Kansas Department of Health and Environment.

The bill would be in effect upon publication in the *Kansas Register*.

### **Background**

The bill was introduced by the House Committee on Veterans and Military at the request of the KCVAO. In the House Committee hearing, a representative of KCVAO testified in favor of the bill. The representative stated the bill would improve patient care, increase productivity, keep patients out of harm, and reduce employee turnover and absenteeism. No neutral or opponent testimony was provided.

The House Committee recommended the bill be placed on the Consent Calendar.

In the Senate Committee on Federal and State Affairs hearing, a KCVAO representative testified in favor of the bill. No other testimony was provided.

The Senate Committee amended the bill to change the effective date from upon publication in the statute book to upon publication in the *Kansas Register*.

According to the fiscal note prepared by the Division of the Budget, the KCVAO estimates the total annual cost to conduct drug screenings would be \$10,000, including \$800 from the State General Fund. The estimate includes \$9,000 for drug screening costs and \$1,000 for administrative costs. Any fiscal effect associated with the enactment of the bill is not reflected in *The FY 2019 Governor's Budget Report*.