Session of 2021

## SENATE BILL No. 122

By Committee on Judiciary

2-1

AN ACT concerning civil procedure; relating to the rules of evidence;
 methods to satisfy requirement to authenticate or identify records and
 documents; amending K.S.A. 60-464 and 60-467 and K.S.A. 2020
 Supp. 60-460 and 60-465 and repealing the existing sections.

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

7 Section 1. K.S.A. 2020 Supp. 60-460 is hereby amended to read as 8 follows: 60-460. Evidence of a statement which is made other than by a 9 witness while testifying at the hearing, offered to prove the truth of the 10 matter stated, is hearsay evidence and inadmissible except:

(a) *Previous statements of persons present*. A statement previously
made by a person who is present at the hearing and available for crossexamination with respect to the statement and its subject matter, provided
the statement would be admissible if made by *the* declarant while
testifying as a witness.

16 (b) *Affidavits*. Affidavits, to the extent admissible by the statutes of this state.

18 (c) Depositions and prior testimony. Subject to the same limitations 19 and objections as though the declarant were testifying in person: (1) 20 Testimony in the form of a deposition taken in compliance with the law of 21 this state for use as testimony in the trial of the action in which offered; or 22 (2) if the judge finds that the declarant is unavailable as a witness at the 23 hearing, testimony given as a witness in another action or in a preliminary 24 hearing or former trial in the same action, or in a deposition taken in 25 compliance with law for use as testimony in the trial of another action, 26 when: (A) The testimony is offered against a party who offered it in the 27 party's own behalf on the former occasion or against the successor in 28 interest of such party; or (B) the issue is such that the adverse party on the 29 former occasion had the right and opportunity for cross-examination with 30 an interest and motive similar to that which the adverse party has in the 31 action in which the testimony is offered, but the provisions of this 32 subsection (e) shall not apply in criminal actions if it denies to the accused the right to meet the witness face to face. 33

34 (d) Contemporaneous statements and statements admissible on
35 ground of necessity generally. A statement which the judge finds was
36 made: (1) While the declarant was perceiving the event or condition which

the statement narrates, describes or explains; (2) while the declarant was under the stress of a nervous excitement caused by such perception; or (3) if the declarant is unavailable as a witness, by the declarant at a time when the matter had been recently perceived by the declarant and while the declarant's recollection was clear and was made in good faith prior to the commencement of the action and with no incentive to falsify or to distort.

7 (e) *Dying declarations*. A statement by a person unavailable as a 8 witness because of the person's death if the judge finds that it was made: 9 (1) Voluntarily and in good faith; and (2) while the declarant was 10 conscious of the declarant's impending death and believed that there was 11 no hope of recovery.

12 (f) Confessions. In a criminal proceeding as against the accused, a previous statement by the accused relative to the offense charged, but only 13 if the judge finds that the accused: (1) When making the statement was 14 conscious and was capable of understanding what the accused said and 15 16 did; and (2) was not induced to make the statement: (A) Under compulsion 17 or by infliction or threats of infliction of suffering upon the accused or 18 another, or by prolonged interrogation under such circumstances as to 19 render the statement involuntary; or (B) by threats or promises concerning 20 action to be taken by a public official with reference to the crime, likely to 21 cause the accused to make such a statement falsely, and made by a person 22 whom the accused reasonably believed to have the power or authority to 23 execute the same.

(g) Admissions by parties. As against a party, a statement by the person who is the party to the action in the person's individual or a representative capacity and, if the latter, who was acting in such representative capacity in making the statement.

(h) Authorized and adoptive admissions. As against a party, a
statement: (1) By a person authorized by the party to make a statement or
statements for the party concerning the subject of the statement; or (2) of
which the party with knowledge of the content thereof has, by words or
other conduct, manifested the party's adoption or belief in its truth.

33 (i) Vicarious admissions. As against a party, a statement which would 34 be admissible if made by the declarant at the hearing if: (1) The statement 35 concerned a matter within the scope of an agency or employment of the 36 declarant for the party and was made before the termination of such 37 relationship; (2) the party and the declarant were participating in a plan to 38 commit a crime or a civil wrong and the statement was relevant to the plan 39 or its subject matter and was made while the plan was in existence and 40 before its complete execution or other termination; or (3) one of the issues 41 between the party and the proponent of the evidence of the statement is a 42 legal liability of the declarant, and the statement tends to establish that 43 liability.

1 (i) Declarations against interest. Subject to the limitations of the 2 exception in subsection (f), a statement which the judge finds was at the 3 time of the assertion so far contrary to the declarant's pecuniary or 4 proprietary interest or so far subjected the declarant to civil or criminal 5 liability or so far rendered invalid a claim by the declarant against another 6 or created such risk of making the declarant an object of hatred, ridicule or 7 social disapproval in the community that a reasonable person in the 8 declarant's position would not have made the statement unless the person 9 believed it to be true.

(k) *Voter's statements*. A statement by a voter concerning the voter's
 qualifications to vote or the fact or content of the voter's vote.

12 (1) Statements of physical or mental condition of declarant. Unless 13 the judge finds it was made in bad faith, a statement of the declarant's: (1) Then existing state of mind, emotion or physical sensation, including 14 15 statements of intent, plan, motive, design, mental feeling, pain and bodily 16 health, but not including memory or belief to prove the fact remembered or 17 believed, when such a mental or physical condition is in issue or is 18 relevant to prove or explain acts or conduct of the declarant; or (2) 19 previous symptoms, pain or physical sensation, made to a physician 20 consulted for treatment or for diagnosis with a view to treatment, and 21 relevant to an issue of declarant's bodily condition.

22 (m) Business entries and the like. Writings offered as memoranda or 23 records of acts, conditions or events to prove the facts stated therein, if the 24 judge finds that the following conditions are shown by the testimony of the 25 custodian or other qualified witness, or by a certification that complies with K.S.A. 60-465(b)(7) or (8), and amendments thereto: (1) They were 26 27 made in the regular course of a business at or about the time of the act, 28 condition or event recorded; and (2) the sources of information from which 29 made and the method and circumstances of their preparation were such as 30 to indicate their trustworthiness.

If the procedure specified by K.S.A. 60-245a(b), and amendments thereto, for providing business records has been complied with and no party has required the personal attendance of a custodian of the records or the production of the original records, the affidavit or declaration of the custodian shall be prima facie evidence that the records satisfy the requirements of this subsection.

(n) Absence of entry in business records. Evidence of the absence of a
memorandum or record from the memoranda or records of a business of an
asserted act, event or condition, to prove the nonoccurrence of the act or
event, or the nonexistence of the condition, if the judge finds that it was
the regular course of that business to make such memoranda of all such
acts, events or conditions at the time thereof or within a reasonable time
thereafter and to preserve them.

1 Content of official record. Subject to K.S.A. 60-461, and (0)2 amendments thereto: (1) If meeting the requirements of authentication 3 under K.S.A. 60-465, and amendments thereto, to prove the content of the 4 record, a writing purporting to be a copy of an official record or of an entry 5 therein; (2) to prove the absence of a record in a specified office, a writing 6 made by the official custodian of the official records of the office, reciting 7 diligent search and failure to find such record; or (3) to prove the absence 8 of a record in the criminal justice information system central repository 9 maintained by the Kansas bureau of investigation pursuant to K.S.A. 22-10 4705, and amendments thereto, a writing made by a person purporting to be an official custodian of the records of the Kansas bureau of 11 12 investigation, reciting diligent search of criminal history record 13 information and electronically stored information, as defined in K.S.A. 22-14 4701, and amendments thereto, and failure to find such record.

(p) *Certificate of marriage*. Subject to K.S.A. 60-461, and amendments thereto, certificates that the maker thereof performed marriage ceremonies, to prove the truth of the recitals thereof, if the judge finds that: (1) The maker of the certificates, at the time and place certified as the times and places of the marriages, was authorized by law to perform marriage ceremonies; and (2) the certificate was issued at that time or within a reasonable time thereafter.

22 (q) Records of documents affecting an interest in property. Subject to 23 K.S.A. 60-461, and amendments thereto, the official record of a document 24 purporting to establish or affect an interest in property, to prove the content 25 of the original recorded document and its execution and delivery by each person by whom it purports to have been executed, if the judge finds that: 26 27 (1) The record is in fact a record of an office of a state or nation or of any 28 governmental subdivision thereof; and (2) an applicable statute authorized 29 such a document to be recorded in that office.

(r) Judgment of previous conviction. Evidence of a final judgment
 adjudging a person guilty of a felony, to prove any fact essential to sustain
 the judgment.

33 (s) Judgment against persons entitled to indemnity. To prove the 34 wrong of the adverse party and the amount of damages sustained by the 35 judgment creditor, evidence of a final judgment if offered by a judgment 36 debtor in an action in which the debtor seeks to recover partial or total 37 indemnity or exoneration for money paid or liability incurred by the debtor 38 because of the judgment, provided the judge finds that the judgment was 39 rendered for damages sustained by the judgment creditor as a result of the 40 wrong of the adverse party to the present action.

(t) Judgment determining public interest in land. To prove any fact
which was essential to the judgment, evidence of a final judgment
determining the interest or lack of interest of the public or of a state or

nation or governmental division thereof in land, if offered by a party in an
 action in which any such fact or such interest or lack of interest is a
 material matter.

4 (u) *Statement concerning one's own family history.* A statement of a 5 matter concerning a declarant's own birth, marriage, divorce, legitimacy, 6 relationship by blood or marriage, race-ancestry or other similar fact of the 7 declarant's family history, even though the declarant had no means of 8 acquiring personal knowledge of the matter declared, if the judge finds 9 that the declarant is unavailable.

10 (v) Statement concerning family history of another. A statement concerning the birth, marriage, divorce, death, legitimacy, race-ancestry, 11 relationship by blood or marriage or other similar fact of the family history 12 13 of a person other than the declarant if the judge finds that the declarant: (1) 14 Was related to the other by blood or marriage, or was otherwise so intimately associated with the other's family as to be likely to have 15 16 accurate information concerning the matter declared, and made the 17 statement as upon information received from the other or from a person 18 related by blood or marriage to the other or as upon repute in the other's 19 family; and (2) is unavailable as a witness.

20 (w) Statement concerning family history based on statement of 21 another declarant. A statement of a declarant that a statement admissible 22 under the exceptions in subsections (u) or (v) was made by another 23 declarant, offered as tending to prove the truth of the matter declared by 24 both declarants, if the judge finds that both declarants are unavailable as 25 witnesses.

(x) *Reputation in family concerning family history.* Evidence of
 reputation among members of a family, if the reputation concerns the birth,
 marriage, divorce, death, legitimacy, race-ancestry or other fact of the
 family history of a member of the family by blood or marriage.

(y) *Reputation—boundaries, general history, family history.* Evidence 30 31 of reputation in a community as tending to prove the truth of the matter 32 reputed, if the reputation concerns: (1) Boundaries of or customs affecting, 33 land in the community and the judge finds that the reputation, if any, arose 34 before controversy; (2) an event of general history of the community or of 35 the state or nation of which the community is a part and the judge finds 36 that the event was of importance to the community; or (3) the birth, 37 marriage, divorce, death, legitimacy, relationship by blood or marriage, or 38 race-ancestry of a person resident in the community at the time of the 39 reputation, or some other similar fact of the person's family history or of 40 the person's personal status or condition which the judge finds likely to 41 have been the subject of a reliable reputation in that community.

42 (z) *Reputation as to character.* If a trait of a person's character at a 43 specified time is material, evidence of the person's reputation with reference thereto at a relevant time in the community in which the person
 then resided or in a group with which the person then habitually
 associated, to prove the truth of the matter reputed.

4 (aa) *Recitals in documents affecting property*. Evidence of a statement 5 relevant to a material matter, contained in a deed of conveyance or a will 6 or other document purporting to affect an interest in property, offered as 7 tending to prove the truth of the matter stated, if the judge finds that: (1) 8 The matter stated would be relevant upon an issue as to an interest in the 9 property; and (2) the dealings with the property since the statement was 10 made have not been inconsistent with the truth of the statement.

11 (bb) *Commercial lists and the like.* Evidence of statements of matters 12 of interest to persons engaged in an occupation contained in a list, register, 13 periodical or other published compilation, to prove the truth of any 14 relevant matter so stated, if the judge finds that the compilation is 15 published for use by persons engaged in that occupation and is generally 16 used and relied upon by them.

17 (cc) *Learned treatises.* A published treatise, periodical or pamphlet on 18 a subject of history, science or art, to prove the truth of a matter stated 19 therein, if the judge takes judicial notice, or a witness expert in the subject 20 testifies, that the treatise, periodical or pamphlet is a reliable authority in 21 the subject.

22 (dd) *Actions involving children.* In a criminal proceeding or a 23 proceeding pursuant to the revised Kansas juvenile justice code or in a 24 proceeding to determine if a child is a child in need of care under the 25 revised Kansas code for care of children, a statement made by a child, to 26 prove the crime or that a child is a juvenile offender or a child in need of 27 care, if:

(1) The child is alleged to be a victim of the crime or offense or achild in need of care; and

(2) the trial judge finds, after a hearing on the matter, that the child is
disqualified or unavailable as a witness, the statement is apparently
reliable and the child was not induced to make the statement falsely by use
of threats or promises.

If a statement is admitted pursuant to this subsection in a trial to a jury, the trial judge shall instruct the jury that it is for the jury to determine the weight and credit to be given the statement and that, in making the determination, it shall consider the age and maturity of the child, the nature of the statement, the circumstances under which the statement was made, any possible threats or promises that might have been made to the child to obtain the statement and any other relevant factor.

41 (ee) *Certified motor vehicle certificate of title history.* Subject to 42 K.S.A. 60-461, and amendments thereto, a certified motor vehicle 43 certificate of title history prepared by the division of vehicles of the 1 Kansas department of revenue.

2 Sec. 2. K.S.A. 60-464 is hereby amended to read as follows: 60-464. 3 Authentication of a writing is required before it may be received inevidence. Authentication may be by evidence sufficient to sustain a finding 4 of its authenticity or by any other means provided by law. If the judge 5 finds that a writing (1) is at least thirty years old at the time it is offered, 6 7 and (2) is in such condition as to create no suspicion concerning its-8 authenticity, and (3) at the time of its discovery was in a place in which such a document, if authentic, would be likely to be found, it is sufficiently 9 authenticated (a) In general. To satisfy the requirement of authenticating 10 or identifying an item of evidence, the proponent must produce evidence 11 12 sufficient to support a finding that the item is what the proponent claims it 13 is.

14 (b) Examples. The following are examples only, not a complete list, of 15 evidence that satisfies the requirement:

16 (1) Testimony of a witness with knowledge. Testimony that an item is 17 what it is claimed to be

(2) Nonexpert opinion about handwriting. A nonexpert's opinion that 18 19 handwriting is genuine, based on a familiarity with it that was not 20 acquired for the current litigation.

(3) Comparison by an expert witness or the trier of fact. A 21 22 comparison with an authenticated specimen by an expert witness or the 23 trier of fact.

24 (4) Distinctive characteristics and the like. The appearance, contents, 25 substance, internal patterns or other distinctive characteristics of the item, taken together with all the circumstances. 26

27 (5) Opinion about a voice. An opinion identifying a person's voice, 28 whether heard firsthand or through mechanical or electronic transmission 29 or recording, based on hearing the voice at any time under circumstances 30 that connect it with the alleged speaker.

31 (6) Evidence about a telephone conversation. For a telephone 32 conversation, evidence that a call was made to the number assigned at the 33 time to:

34 (A) A particular person, *if circumstances*, including self-35 identification, show that the person answering was the one called; or

36 (B) a particular business, if the call was made to a business and the 37 call related to business reasonably transacted over the telephone. 38

(7) Evidence about public records. Evidence that:

39 (A) A document was recorded or filed in a public office as authorized 40 by law: or

41 a purported public record or statement is from the office where (B) 42 items of this kind are kept.

43 (8) Evidence about ancient documents or data compilations. For a 1 document or data compilation, evidence that it:

(A) Is in a condition that creates no suspicion about its authenticity;

(B) was in a place where, if authentic, it would likely be; and

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(C) is at least 30 years old when offered. (9) Evidence about a process or system. Evidence describing a

5 (9) Evidence about a process or system. Evidence describing a 6 process or system and showing that it produces an accurate result.

7 (10) Methods provided by a statute or rule. Any method of 8 authentication or identification allowed by law or a rule prescribed by the 9 supreme court.

10 Sec. 3. K.S.A. 2020 Supp. 60-465 is hereby amended to read as follows: 60-465. (a) Public documents. A writing purporting to be a copy 11 of an official record or of an entry therein, meets the requirements of 12 13 authentication if the judge finds that the writing purports to be published by authority of the nation, state or subdivision thereof, in which the record 14 is kept or evidence has been introduced sufficient to warrant a finding that 15 16 the writing is a correct copy of the record or entry. Extrinsic evidence of 17 authenticity as a condition precedent to admissibility is not required if:

(1) The office in which the record is kept is within this state and the
writing is attested as a correct copy of the record or entry by a person
purporting to be an officer, or a deputy of an officer, having the legal
custody of the record;

22 (2) the office in which the record is kept is within this state and the 23 record is attested by a person purporting to be an official custodian of the 24 records of the Kansas bureau of investigation as a correct copy of criminal 25 history record information or electronically stored information, as defined in K.S.A. 22-4701, and amendments thereto, accessed through the criminal 26 27 justice information system central repository maintained by the Kansas 28 bureau of investigation pursuant to K.S.A. 22-4705, and amendments 29 thereto:

30 (3) the office in which the record is kept is within the United States or 31 territory or insular possession subject to the dominion of the United States 32 and the writing is attested to as required in paragraph (1) and authenticated 33 by seal of the office having custody or, if that office has no seal, by a 34 public officer having a seal and having official duties in the district or 35 political subdivision in which the records are kept who certifies under seal 36 that such officer has custody; or

(4) the office in which the record is kept is in a foreign state or country, the writing is attested as required in paragraph (1) and is accompanied by a certificate that such officer has the custody of the record which certificate may be made by a secretary of an embassy or legation, consul general, consul, vice-consul; or consular agent or by any officer in the foreign service of the United States stationed in the foreign state or country in which the record is kept, and authenticated by the seal of that 1 office.

(b) Self-authenticating evidence. The following items of evidence are
 self-authenticating and require no extrinsic evidence of authenticity in
 order to be admitted:

5 (1) Official publications. A book, pamphlet or other publication 6 purporting to be issued by a public authority.

7 (2) Newspapers and periodicals. Printed material purporting to be a 8 newspaper or periodical.

9 (3) Trade inscriptions and the like. An inscription, sign, tag or label 10 purporting to have been affixed in the course of business and indicating 11 origin, ownership or control.

(4) Acknowledged documents. A document accompanied by a
certificate of acknowledgment that is lawfully executed by a notary public
or another officer who is authorized to take acknowledgments.

(5) Commercial paper and related documents. Commercial paper, a
 signature on it, and related documents, to the extent allowed by general
 commercial law.

(6) Presumptions under law. A signature, document or anything else
that a state or federal statute declares to be presumptively or prima facie
genuine or authentic.

21 (7) Certified domestic records of a regularly conducted activity. The 22 original or a copy of a domestic record that meets the requirements of 23 K.S.A. 60-460(m), and amendments thereto, as shown by a certification of the custodian or another qualified person, in an affidavit or a declaration 24 25 pursuant to K.S.A. 53-601, and amendments thereto, or a rule prescribed by the supreme court. Before the trial or hearing, the proponent must give 26 27 an adverse party reasonable written notice of the intent to offer the record, 28 and must make the record and certification available for inspection, so 29 that the party has a fair opportunity to challenge them.

30 (8) Certified foreign records of a regularly conducted activity. The 31 original or a copy of a foreign record that meets the requirements of 32 paragraph (7), modified as follows: The certification, rather than 33 complying with a statute or supreme court rule, must be signed in a 34 manner that, if falsely made, would subject the maker to a criminal 35 penalty in the country where the certification is signed. The proponent 36 must also meet the notice requirements of paragraph (7).

(9) Certified records generated by an electronic process or system. A
record generated by an electronic process or system that produces an
accurate result, as shown by a certification of a qualified person that
complies with the certification requirements of paragraph (7) or (8). The
proponent must also meet the notice requirements of paragraph (7).

42 (10) Certified data copied from an electronic device, storage medium 43 or file. Data copied from an electronic device, storage medium or file, if authenticated by a process of digital identification, as shown by a
 certification of a qualified person that complies with the certification
 requirements of paragraph (7) or (8). The proponent must also meet the
 notice requirements of paragraph (7).

5 Sec. 4. K.S.A. 60-467 is hereby amended to read as follows: 60-467. 6 (a) As tending to prove the content of a writing, no evidence other than the 7 writing itself is admissible, except as otherwise provided in these rules, 8 unless the judge finds that: An original writing, recording or photograph 9 is required in order to prove its content unless these rules or a statute 10 provide otherwise.

(b) A duplicate is admissible to the same extent as the original unless
 a genuine question is raised about the original's authenticity or the
 circumstances make it unfair to admit the duplicate.

14 (1) (c) If the *a* writing is a telefacsimile communication as defined in 15 subsection (d) and is used by the proponent or opponent as the writing 16 itself, such telefacsimile communication shall be considered as the writing 17 itself; an original.

(2) (A) (d) An original is not required and other evidence of the
 content of a writing, recording or photograph is admissible if:

20 (1) The writing, *recording or photograph* is lost or has been 21 destroyed without fraudulent intent on the part of the proponent<del>, (B)</del>;

(2) the writing, *recording or photograph* is outside the reach of the
 court's process and not procurable by the proponent, (C);

(3) the opponent, at a time when the writing, *recording or photograph* was under the opponent's control, has been notified, expressly
or by implication from the pleadings, that it would be needed at the
hearing, and on request at the hearing has failed to produce it, (D);

(4) the writing, recording or photograph is not closely related to the
 controlling issues and it would be inexpedient to require its production;
 (E);

31 (5) the writing is an official record, or is a writing affecting property 32 authorized to be recorded and actually recorded in the public records as 33 described in exception (s) of K.S.A. 60-460(s), and amendments thereto; 34 or (F)

(6) calculations or summaries of content are called for as a result of
 an examination by a qualified witness of multiple or voluminous writings,
 which and such writings cannot be conveniently examined in court, but the
 adverse party shall have had a reasonable opportunity to examine such
 records before trial, and such writings are present in court for use in cross examination, or the adverse party has waived their production, or the judge
 finds that their production is unnecessary.

42 (b) If the judge makes one of the findings specified in subsection (a),
 43 secondary evidence of the content of the writing is admissible. If evidence

1 is offered by the opponent tending to prove that (1) the asserted writing never existed, (2) a writing produced at the trial is the asserted writing or (3) the secondary evidence does not correctly reflect the content of the asserted writing, the evidence is irrelevant and inadmissible upon the question of admissibility of the secondary evidence but is relevant and admissible upon the issues of the existence and content of the asserted writing to be determined by the trier of fact.

8 (e) The proponent may prove the content of a writing, recording or 9 photograph by the testimony, deposition or written statement of the party 10 against whom the evidence is offered. The proponent need not account for 11 the original.

(f) Ordinarily, the court determines whether the proponent has
fulfilled the factual conditions for admitting other evidence of the content
of a writing, recording or photograph under subsection (d). But in a jury
trial, the jury determines any issue about whether:

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(1) An asserted writing, recording or photograph ever existed;

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(3) other evidence of content accurately reflects the content.

(2) another one produced at the trial or hearing is the original; or

19 (c) (g) If the procedure specified by subsection (b) of K.S.A. 60-20 245a(b), and amendments thereto, for providing business records has been 21 complied with and no party has required the personal attendance of a 22 custodian of the records or the production of the original records, the copy 23 of the records produced shall not be excluded under subsection (a).

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(d) (h) As used in The following definitions apply to this section;:

(1) "Telefacsimile communication" means the use of electronic
 equipment to send or transfer a copy of an original document via telephone
 lines.

(2) "Photograph" means a photographic image or its equivalent
 stored in any form.

30 (3) "Original" of a writing or recording means the writing or 31 recording itself or any counterpart intended to have the same effect by the 32 person who executed or issued it. For electronically stored information, 33 "original" means any printout, or other output readable by sight, if it 34 accurately reflects the information. An "original" of a photograph 35 includes the negative or a print from it.

(4) "Duplicate" means a counterpart produced by a mechanical,
photographic, chemical, electronic or other equivalent process or
technique that accurately reproduces the original.

Sec. 5. K.S.A. 60-464 and 60-467 and K.S.A. 2020 Supp. 60-460 and
 60-465 are hereby repealed.

41 Sec. 6. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its 42 publication in the statute book.