

UPDATED
SESSION OF 2022

SUPPLEMENTAL NOTE ON HOUSE BILL NO. 2609

As Recommended by House Committee on
Transportation

Brief*

HB 2609 would allow a 15-year-old restricted class C or M driver's license holder to drive directly to or from any religious worship service held by a religious organization.

"Religious organization" is defined in continuing law in the Motor Vehicle Driver's License Act to mean any organization, church, body of communicants, or group that gathers for religious purposes at a defined place of worship and has a regular schedule of services meeting at least on a weekly basis and has been determined to be organized and created as a *bona fide* religious organization.

[*Note:* Current law authorizes 16-year-old holders of restricted licenses or farm permits to drive directly to or from religious worship services under certain circumstances.]

Background

The bill was introduced by Representative Esau and 46 others.

House Committee on Transportation

In the House Committee hearing, Representative Esau and two private citizens provided **proponent** testimony,

*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>

indicating the bill would be a benefit to rural Kansans and families with busy parents, and that driving to a church service is typically as safe as currently permitted driving.

Written-only proponent testimony was provided by Representative Woodard.

No other testimony was provided.

The bill was withdrawn from the Calendar and referred to the House Committee on Appropriations on February 23, 2022, and, on March 1, 2022, was rereferred to the House Committee on Transportation, which again recommended the bill for passage.

Fiscal Information

According to the fiscal note prepared by the Division of the Budget, the Kansas Department of Revenue states enactment of the bill would not have a fiscal effect on agency operations.

Driver's license; restricted; worship services; religious organization; teenager