

SESSION OF 2019

SUPPLEMENTAL NOTE ON HOUSE BILL NO. 2083

As Amended by House Committee on Insurance

Brief*

HB 2083, as amended, would amend a provision in the Insurance Code related to a required reduction in motor vehicle insurance premium charges when an individual successfully completes a motor vehicle accident prevention course (course).

The bill would establish a minimum course duration of four hours. The bill would also replace “the National Safety Council or a governmental agency such as the State Board of Education” with the Insurance Department (Department) as the entity approving such a course.

The bill would update language to replace “discount” with “premium reduction,” specify the insured participant is the principal operator of the covered vehicle, and make other technical changes.

Background

The bill was introduced by the House Committee on Insurance at the request of Representative Dierks on behalf of AARP Kansas. In the House Committee hearing, a representative of AARP Kansas spoke in favor of the bill and provided information on the AARP Smart Driver program, noting Kansas is one of only six states to require an eight-hour course. As a result, the representative stated, the number of course participants has dramatically declined because Kansas drivers take the course in neighboring states

*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>

that have four-hour courses. Written-only proponent testimony was provided by representatives of AAA Kansas and the Kansas Traffic Safety Resource Office.

No neutral or opponent testimony was provided.

The House Committee amended the bill to specify the Department as the approving course entity and remove references to other entities. The amendment was suggested in the testimony presented by AARP Kansas.

According to the fiscal note prepared by the Division of the Budget on the bill as introduced, the Department indicated enactment of the bill would have no fiscal effect because the bill did not designate or authorize the Department to be responsible for the review of these courses. (During House Committee action on the bill, it was noted the Department had indicated the costs to approve such courses would be nominal and could be met within existing resources.)