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300 SW TENTH AVENUE ■ SUITE 24-E ■ TOPEKA, KS 66612 ■ (785) 296-2321

MEMORANDUM

To: House Committee on Judiciary

From: Office of Revisor of Statutes

Date: January 31, 2024

Subject: Bill Brief on 2488

HB 2488 adds the conduct of intentionally advising or encouraging another person to commit or attempt to commit suicide in the crime of assisting suicide.

The bill amends K.S.A. 21-5407, which is the crime of assisting suicide. The bill adds two additional ways to commit the crime. The first is “intentionally advising or encouraging another person to commit or attempt to commit suicide that causes such person to commit or attempt to commit suicide.” Violation of this offense would be a severity level 7, person felony. The second is “intentionally advising or encouraging another person to commit or attempt to commit suicide.” Violation of this offense would be a class A person misdemeanor.

The bill additionally increases the criminal penalty for “intentionally assisting another person to commit or to attempt to commit suicide” from a severity level 9, person felony to a severity level 7, person felony.