SENATE BILL No. 69

By Committee on Judiciary

1-22

9 AN ACT concerning crime stoppers; establishing an advisory council; 10 imposing certain fees; providing for certain grants; creating the Kansas crime stopper trust fund.

12

14

15

16

17

18 19

20

21

22

23

24

25

26

27

28

29

30

31

32

33

34

35

36

37

38

39

40

41

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

Section 1. As used in this act:

- (a) "Association" means Kansas crime stoppers association, inc.
- (b) "Council" means the crime stoppers advisory council.
- (c) "Local crime stoppers program" means the acceptance and spending of donations by a private, nonprofit organization for the awarding of rewards to persons who report information concerning criminal activity to the organization if the organization:
 - (1) Operates less than statewide;
- (2) forwards reported information to the appropriate law enforcement agency; and
- (3) meets and maintains certification standards as set forth by the Kansas crime stoppers association, inc.
- Sec. 2. (a) There is hereby created within the attorney general's office the crime stoppers advisory council. The council shall be composed of two persons appointed by the attorney general and the executive board of directors of the association, as set forth in the by-laws of the association.
- (b) At the first meeting of the council, which shall be called by the attorney general, and at the first meeting after the beginning of each new state fiscal year, the council shall elect from among its members a chairperson and such other officers as the council deems necessary.
- (c) Members of the council attending meetings of the council, or attending a subcommittee meeting thereof, or performing other official duties of the council, as authorized by the council, shall be paid amounts provided for in subsection (e) of K.S.A. 75-3223, and amendments thereto. The attorney general and the chairperson of the council shall be responsible for approving all expense vouchers of members.
- (d) The council shall meet at least once each year and may hold special meetings whenever they are called by the chairperson.
- 42 (e) The council, in accordance with K.S.A. 75-4319, and amendments 43 thereto, may recess for a closed or executive session.

- Sec. 3. (a) The council may contract with a person to serve as its director with the counsel of the attorney general. The council shall establish the authority and responsibilities of the director. The director shall not hold an elected position in the association.
 - (b) The council, to the extent resources are available, shall:
 - (1) Advise and assist in the creation of local crime stoppers programs;
 - (2) foster the detection of crime and encourage persons to report information about criminal acts;
- (3) encourage news and other media to promote local crime stoppers programs and to inform the public of the functions of the council;
- (4) assist local crime stoppers programs in forwarding information about criminal acts to the appropriate law enforcement agencies;
- (5) help law enforcement agencies detect and combat crime by increasing the flow of information to and between law enforcement agencies;
- (6) assess training needs for local crime stoppers programs and provide support and training to crime stoppers programs within the state;
- (7) assist local crime stoppers programs in the acquisition of resources needed to keep and report statistical data and to communicate between local programs, law enforcement agencies and other crime stoppers programs and agencies; and
- (8) provide other assistance as deemed appropriate to enhance public safety in Kansas.
- (c) The council may adopt rules and regulations to carry out its duties under this act.
- Sec. 4. (a) In addition to the fees provided by K.S.A. 21-4610a and 22-2909, and amendments thereto, each person who is placed on probation, is assigned to a community correctional services program or enters into a diversion agreement in lieu of further criminal proceedings shall pay a fee of \$20. Such fee shall be charged and collected by the clerk of the district court. The clerk of the district court shall remit to the state treasurer, in accordance with the provisions of K.S.A. 75-4215, and amendments thereto, the balance of all moneys received by such clerk from such fees. Upon receipt of the remittance, the state treasurer shall deposit the entire amount in the state treasury and credit it to the Kansas crime stopper trust fund created pursuant to subsection (d).
- (b) The clerk of each county shall maintain an accounting of the number of fees received pursuant to this section from persons who were placed on probation, were assigned to a community correctional services program or entered into a diversion agreement in lieu of further criminal proceedings in such county and shall report that number to the council. The local crime stoppers program from each county that meets the required certification set forth by the association may make application to

the council for a grant for reimbursement of moneys credited to the Kansas crime stopper trust fund which were collected from fees received pursuant to this section from persons who were placed on probation, were assigned to a community correctional services program or entered into a diversion agreement in lieu of further criminal proceedings in such county. The council shall establish the qualifications required to receive such grants. All such reimbursements shall require the approval of the attorney general. The amount of any such grant shall not exceed 50% of the total amount of fees received pursuant to this section from persons who were placed on probation, were assigned to a community correctional services program or entered into a diversion agreement in lieu of further criminal proceedings in the county.

- (c) The attorney general shall have the authority to accept, budget and expend for any proper expenses of the crime stoppers advisory council any special source funds made available for the purposes of the crime stoppers program. Any such funds shall be deposited in the state treasury and credited to the Kansas crime stopper trust fund.
- (d) (1) There is hereby created in the state treasury the Kansas crime stopper trust fund.
- (2) Moneys in the Kansas crime stopper trust fund shall be expended only for the authorized purposes set forth in this act.
- (3) All expenditures from the Kansas crime stopper trust fund shall be made in accordance with appropriation acts upon warrants of the director of accounts and reports issued pursuant to vouchers approved by the attorney general for the purposes set forth in this act.
- Sec. 5. (a) Council records relating to reports of criminal acts are confidential.
- (b) Evidence of a communication between a person submitting a report of a criminal act to the council or a local crime stoppers program and the person who accepted the report on behalf of the council or local crime stoppers program is not admissible in a court or an administrative proceeding whether the evidence is held by the council or a local crime stoppers program or is held by a telecommunications service provider.
- (c) Records of the council or a local crime stoppers program concerning a report of a criminal activity and records of a telecommunications service provider relating to a report made to the council or to a local crime stoppers program may not be compelled to be produced before a court or other tribunal except on the motion of a criminal defendant to the court in which the offense is being tried that the records or report contain evidence that is exculpatory to the defendant in the trial of that offense. On motion of a defendant under this subsection, the court may subpoena the record or report. The court shall conduct an in-camera inspection of materials produced under subpoena to determine whether

 the materials contain evidence that is exculpatory to the defendant. If the court determines that the materials produced contain evidence that is exculpatory to the defendant, the court shall present the evidence to the defendant in a form that does not disclose the identity of the person who was the source of the evidence, unless the court makes a finding that the state or federal constitution requires the disclosure of that person's identity. The court shall return to the council or to the local crime stoppers program materials that are produced under the section but not disclosed to the defendant. The council or local crime stoppers program shall store the materials until the conclusion of the criminal trial and the expiration of the time for all direct appeals in the case.

- Sec. 6. (a) A person who is a member or employee of the council or who accepts a report of a criminal activity on behalf of a local crime stoppers program is guilty of a class A nonperson misdemeanor if the person intentionally or knowingly divulges to a person not employed by the law enforcement agency the content of a report of a criminal act or the identity of the person who made the report without the consent of the person who made the report.
- (b) A person convicted of an offense under this section shall not be eligible for state employment during the five-year period following the date that the conviction becomes final.
- Sec. 7. (a) A county commission or governing body of a city is authorized to contribute funds to a local crime stoppers program from the general fund of the county or city or any other available source if the local crime stoppers program is established to operate, in whole or in part, within the boundaries of such county or city.
- (b) This act shall not be construed to repeal any local ordinance or resolution establishing a crime stoppers program, or affect any crime stoppers program established by a city, county or private entity, or the operation or funding of such program.
- Sec. 8. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its publication in the statute book.