

SESSION OF 2007

SUPPLEMENTAL NOTE ON SENATE BILL NO. 102

As Recommended by Senate Committee on
Financial Institutions and Insurance

Brief*

SB 102 would amend from December 31, 2006 to December 31, 2007, the sunset date contained in the law requiring parity between health and mental health benefits in all group health insurance policies except for small groups.

Background

SB 102 was requested by the Insurance Commissioner whose representative indicated that, in order to be in compliance with the federal Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA), the state must change the sunset date annually (as the date is changed annually at the federal level). A failure to do so, the representative noted, would surrender regulatory control in this area to the federal government. The Kansas Mental Health Coalition provided written testimony in support of the annual renewal of statutory provisions allowing for private coverage for mental illnesses and mental health conditions in Kansas.

The fiscal note prepared by the Division of the Budget indicates that passage of the bill would have no fiscal effect on the operations of the Kansas Insurance Department.

*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>