

SESSION OF 2008

**SUPPLEMENTAL NOTE ON SENATE BILL NO. 438**

As Amended by Senate Committee on  
Commerce

**Brief\***

SB 438, as amended, would prohibit an employer from terminating any employee because the employee serves as a volunteer firefighter, volunteer certified emergency medical services attendant, volunteer reserve law enforcement officer, or volunteer part-time law enforcement officer. The protection would not apply to full-time firefighters or law enforcement officers who volunteer as emergency medical services attendants, firefighters, or law enforcement officers.

**Background**

SB 438 was introduced by Senator Derek Schmidt at the request of the Neodesha Fire Chief. At the hearing before the Senate Committee on Commerce, the bill was supported by the Kansas State Fire Marshal and representatives of the Kansas Board of Emergency Medical Services, the Kansas Association of Chiefs of Police, the Kansas Peace Officer's Association, and Burrton Consolidated Fire District #5.

The Senate Committee on Commerce amended the bill to include volunteer emergency medical services attendants, volunteer reserve law enforcement officers, and volunteer part-time law enforcement officers. The Senate Committee on Commerce also amended the bill to exclude full-time law enforcement officers or firefighters who also volunteer as emergency medical services attendants, firefighters, or law enforcement officers from protection.

The fiscal note prepared by the Division of the Budget indicated no fiscal impact from the enactment of the bill.

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\*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>