

SESSION OF 2010

SUPPLEMENTAL NOTE ON HOUSE BILL NO. 2166

As Amended by House Committee of the Whole

Brief*

HB 2166, as amended, would add a new definition to an abortion statute. The definition would state that “bodily function” means physical functions, and that the term would not include mental or emotional functions. The definition of “medical emergency” also was amended by replacing previously proposed new language with the term “impairment” that is in current law.

Background

HB 2166, as recommended by the House Committee, would amend current law regarding health exceptions for late-term abortions. The bill would delete the word “impairment” in four existing statutes and insert in its place the terms “physical disorder, physical illness, or physical injury.”

A proponent of the bill, as introduced, included the sponsor, Representative Steve Huebert. Opponents of the bill included representatives of the Women’s Health Care Services, ProKanDo, and Planned Parenthood of Kansas and Mid-Missouri.

The Kansas Department of Health and Environment indicates that passage of the bill, as introduced, would increase expenditures by \$1,500 in FY 2010. Of the amount, \$500 would be to modify and print forms, and \$1,000 for staff to travel and train providers about the changes to current law.

*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>

The House Committee of the Whole deleted the proposed changes of definitions in three of the current sections and added a change in definition to KSA 65-6701, which pertains to abortions. The amended bill would eliminate mental or emotional from the definition of bodily function as conditions for a late-term abortion should a medical emergency arise. Mental or emotional function could no longer be considered as part of a woman's medical condition that could create serious risk of substantial and irreversible impairment of a major bodily function.