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**KANSAS OFFICE of**  
**REVISOR of STATUTES**  
**LEGISLATURE of THE STATE of KANSAS**  
*Legislative Attorneys transforming ideas into legislation.*

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**MEMORANDUM**

To: Senate Committee on Judiciary  
From: Office of Revisor of Statutes  
Date: March 4, 2025  
Subject: Bill Brief for HB 2177 (As Introduced)

House Bill 2177 increases the criminal penalties for certain violations of fleeing or attempting to elude a police officer when the person has prior convictions of the offense.

The bill amends K.S.A. 8-1568, part of the uniform act regulating traffic on highways. Current law in subsection (b)(1) provides that any driver of a motor vehicle who knowingly fails or refuses to bring such driver's vehicle to a stop, or who otherwise flees or attempts to elude a pursuing police vehicle or police bicycle, when given visual or audible signal to bring the vehicle to a stop, and who commits any of the following during a police pursuit, shall be guilty as provided by subsection (c)(2): (1) Fails to stop for a police road block; (2) drives around tire deflating devices placed by a police officer; (3) engages in reckless driving as defined by K.S.A. 8-1566; (4) is involved in any motor vehicle accident or intentionally causes damage to property; (5) commits five or more moving violations; or (6) is operating a stolen motor vehicle. Current law in subsection (b)(2) provides that any such driver who is attempting to elude capture for the commission of any felony, shall be guilty as provided by subsection (c)(2).

Violation of subsection (b)(1) or (b)(2) is a severity level 9, person felony. The bill makes these violations a: (1) Severity level 9, person felony when the person being sentenced has no prior convictions for a violation of subsection (b); (2) severity level 7, person felony when the person being sentenced has one prior conviction for a violation of subsection (b); and (3) severity level 5, person felony when the person being sentenced has two or more prior convictions for a violation of subsection (b).

Current law in subsection (b)(3) provides that any driver of a motor vehicle who knowingly fails or refuses to bring such driver's vehicle to a stop, or who otherwise flees or attempts to elude a pursuing police vehicle or police bicycle, when given visual or audible signal to bring the vehicle to a stop, and who knowingly drives the wrong way into an opposing lane of travel on a divided highway as defined in K.S.A. 8-1414, knowingly departs the appropriate lane of travel into an opposing lane of travel on any roadway causing an evasive maneuver by another driver, knowingly drives through any intersection causing an evasive maneuver by another driver or causes a collision involving another driver, shall be guilty as provided by subsection (c)(3).

Violation of subsection (b)(3) is a severity level 7, person felony. The bill makes these violations a: (1) Severity level 7, person felony when the person being sentenced has no prior convictions for a violation of subsection (b); (2) severity level 6, person felony when the person being sentenced has one prior conviction for a violation of subsection (b); (3) severity level 4, person felony when the person being sentenced has two or more prior convictions for a violation of subsection (b).

The bill would take effect from and after publication in the statute book, July 1, 2025.