

HOUSE BILL No. 2723

By Committee on Judiciary

Requested by Brenna Visoscky on behalf of Kansas Appleseed

2-5

1 AN ACT concerning courts; requiring the supreme court to develop or
2 procure a court date reminder program for the purpose of sending
3 advance notifications to individuals with scheduled court dates for a
4 criminal case or an infraction; requiring all courts to send certain
5 notifications using such program.

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7 *Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Kansas:*

8 Section 1. (a) (1) On or before June 30, 2027, the supreme court shall
9 develop or procure a court date reminder program for the purpose of
10 sending advance notifications to individuals who have scheduled court
11 dates as described in this section. Such notification shall remind such
12 individuals of their court date and notify them of related information.

13 (2) On and after July 1, 2027, such program shall be used by all
14 courts to send notifications to defendants in a criminal case or a case
15 concerning an infraction. Such notifications shall be sent by text message,
16 or if the program does not possess a valid telephone number for an
17 individual described in this section to receive text messages by one or
18 more of the following alternative methods: electronic mail, telephone call
19 or mail.

20 (b) (1) Participation in the court date reminder program described in
21 subsection (a) shall be provided at no cost to all individuals subject to
22 notification under this section. Individuals for whom the program has a
23 valid telephone number, email or mailing address will be enrolled
24 automatically and allowed to opt out of receiving future text message
25 notifications.

26 (2) The court date reminder program shall send notifications to the
27 individuals described in this section on at least two separate occasions
28 prior to such individual's scheduled court date or required payment date, as
29 applicable. Such notifications shall be sent as follows:

30 (A) A welcome text or email message when the case is opened and a
31 court date is scheduled;

32 (B) reminder text messages sent seven days and one day before such
33 date;

34 (C) reminder email messages sent 14 days and one day before such
35 date;

1 (D) reminder mail notice sent 14 days before such date; and
2 (E) if applicable, a missed appearance or overdue required payment
3 message within 24 hours after such missed appearance or payment that has
4 become overdue.

5 (3) Additional notifications may be sent at the discretion of the court
6 to ensure adequate notice is provided.

7 (c) (1) Law enforcement officers, corrections personnel and court
8 staff shall, to the greatest extent practicable, obtain current telephone
9 numbers of individuals at the time of issuing summonses, booking
10 individuals, preparing charging documents, completing intake forms,
11 executing booking and release forms and engaging with defendants at
12 court, as well as on any other document or process deemed relevant for the
13 purposes of this section.

14 (2) Refusal to provide a telephone number to a law enforcement
15 officer, corrections personnel or court staff shall not be held against the
16 individual for any purpose.

17 (3) Telephone numbers collected pursuant to this section shall be
18 transmitted to the court date reminder program for use exclusively in
19 accordance with this section.

20 (d) The court date reminder program described in subsection (a) shall
21 include a publicly accessible website, or another mechanism that the
22 supreme court deems appropriate, by which individuals may update their
23 telephone numbers and other contact information and enroll in the
24 program.

25 Sec. 2. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its
26 publication in the statute book.