

SESSION OF 2011

**SUPPLEMENTAL NOTE ON SENATE BILL NO. 56**

As Recommended by Senate Committee on  
Judiciary

**Brief\***

SB 56 would amend the criminal sodomy statute to remove the crime of sodomy between persons who are 16 or more years of age and members of the same sex.

**Background**

The Kansas Equality Coalition requested the Senate Judiciary Committee introduce SB 56.

In the Senate Judiciary Committee, representatives of the Kansas Equality Coalition appeared in support of the bill, stating the criminalization of same-sex sodomy was held unconstitutional by the United States Supreme Court in *Lawrence v. Texas*, 539 U.S. 558 (2003). No opponents provided testimony. The Committee made no changes to the bill and recommended it be passed.

The fiscal note on the bill states the bill would have no fiscal effect. The Kansas Sentencing Commission indicates the bill would have no impact on prison beds.

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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>