

SESSION OF 2017

SUPPLEMENTAL NOTE ON HOUSE BILL NO. 2304

As Amended by House Committee on Children
and Seniors

Brief*

HB 2304, as amended, would amend the statute governing standards and regulation of maternity centers and child care facilities to require child care facilities ensure the following requirements are met for children under 12 months of age:

- A child could be placed to sleep only on a surface and in an area approved for use as such by the Secretary of Health and Environment (Secretary); and
- The sleep surface would be required to be free from soft or loose bedding, including blankets, bumpers and pillows, as well as toys, including mobiles and other types of play equipment or devices.

Child care facilities would be required to ensure that children over 12 months of age are placed to sleep only on a surface and in an area approved for use as such by the Secretary.

The Secretary would be allowed to make exceptions to the above requirements where special health needs exist.

The above requirements would be in addition to any rules and regulations adopted under the statute for safe sleep practices.

*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>

Background

The bill was introduced by Representative Burroughs. In the hearing before the House Committee on Children and Seniors, Representative Burroughs testified in support of the bill. A representative of the Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE) testified as a neutral conferee. No other testimony was provided.

The House Committee adopted an amendment clarifying the terms and phrasing used in the new requirements, limiting application of some of the new requirements to children under 12 months of age, and allowing the Secretary to make exceptions to the requirements where special health needs exist.

According to the fiscal note prepared by the Division of the Budget on the bill, as introduced, enactment of the bill would have no fiscal effect for the Department for Children and Families or KDHE because the additional requirements could be implemented within existing resources.