

{As Amended by Senate Committee of the Whole}

As Amended by Senate Committee

Session of 2019

SENATE BILL No. 230

By Committee on Federal and State Affairs

3-14

1 AN ACT concerning the Kansas department for children and families;
2 relating to the Kansas commission for the deaf and hard of hearing;
3 executive director duties; registration of interpreters; rules and
4 regulation authority; amending K.S.A. 75-4355a and 75-4355b and
5 K.S.A. 2018 Supp. 75-5391, 75-5393 and 75-5397a and repealing the
6 existing sections.
7

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

9 New Section 1. (a) Registration in accordance with this section shall
10 be required to interpret under K.S.A. 75-4355a through 75-4355d, and
11 amendments thereto, *or to comply with any state or federal law or rules*
12 *and regulations*.

13 (b) To obtain registration as an interpreter, an applicant shall submit
14 an application on a form and in a manner prescribed by the commission.
15 The commission may grant registration to any person who:

16 (1) Has obtained a high school diploma or its equivalent;

17 (2) is 18 years of age or older;

18 (3) has no other record of disqualifying conduct as designated by the
19 commission; and

20 (4) has obtained a certification or other appropriate credentials as
21 designated by the commission.

22 (c) (1) The commission may grant registration as an interpreter to an
23 applicant who has been duly licensed or registered as an interpreter by
24 examination under the laws of another state, territory or the District of
25 Columbia if, in the opinion of the commission, the applicant substantially
26 meets the qualifications for registration as an interpreter in this state. The
27 applicant shall provide satisfactory evidence of verification of the
28 applicant's licensure or registration from the original state of licensure or
29 registration.

30 (2) The commission may grant temporary registration to a
31 nonresident interpreter who holds a certificate or license in such person or
32 entity's state of residence. An interpreter granted a temporary registration
33 shall not interpret more than 20 separate days in a year in this state.

34 (d) (1) The commission shall charge and collect in advance fees

1 (9) serve as an advisory board to the governor **and legislature** on the
2 needs of the deaf and hard of hearing by preparing an annual report which
3 reviews the status of all state services to the deaf and hard of hearing
4 within Kansas, and to recommend priorities ~~to the governor~~ for the
5 development and coordination of services to the deaf and hard of hearing;
6 (10) make recommendations for needed improvements, and serve as
7 an advisory board in regard to new legislation affecting the deaf and hard
8 of hearing.

9 (b) *The commission may:*

10 (1) *Develop and oversee programs concerning interpreters,*
11 *interpreter service agencies, and communication access services;*

12 (2) *become a member of or affiliate with any professional*
13 *organization related to the powers, duties and functions of the*
14 *commission; and*

15 (3) *undertake any and all other acts as may be necessary for the*
16 *performance of the commission's powers, duties and functions in the*
17 *administration of K.S.A. 75-4355a through 75-4355d, and amendments*
18 *thereto, and sections 1 through 5, and amendments thereto.*

19 (c) Except as otherwise provided by this act, all budgeting,
20 purchasing and related management functions of the Kansas commission
21 for the deaf and hard of hearing shall be administered ~~under the direction~~
22 ~~and supervision of~~ by the secretary for children and families. Within the
23 limitations of available appropriations, the secretary for children and
24 families shall provide additional clerical and other assistance as may be
25 required for the commission. ***The Kansas commission for the deaf and***
26 ***hard of hearing shall report directly to the deputy secretary or secretary.***

27 Sec. 9. K.S.A. ~~2018-Supp.~~ 75-5393 is hereby amended to read as
28 follows: 75-5393. (a) The Kansas commission for the deaf and hard of
29 hearing shall employ an executive director and shall fix the duties,
30 responsibilities and qualifications thereof. The executive director shall be a
31 full-time employee of the commission who shall be in the unclassified
32 service under the Kansas civil service act and shall receive an annual
33 salary to be fixed by the commission, ~~which shall be comparable to the~~
34 ~~salaries of executive directors of other commissions.~~ The executive
35 director shall receive actual and necessary expenses incurred while in the
36 discharge of official duties.

37 (b) The executive director, with the advice and consent of the
38 commission shall:

39 (1) Within the limitations of available appropriations, plan and
40 oversee the establishment of service centers for the deaf and hard of
41 hearing in areas where the commission deems they are needed and in
42 concurrence with the secretary for children and families and in
43 consultation with local boards of directors of community service centers

Strike in lines 33 & 34