

SESSION OF 2023

SUPPLEMENTAL NOTE ON HOUSE BILL NO. 2262

As Recommended by House Committee on
Health and Human Services

Brief*

HB 2262 would amend the educational requirements for embalmers, allowing for students to complete 6 months of a required 12-month apprenticeship before enrolling in a mortuary science school.

Current law requires an applicant for a license to practice embalming to complete a 12-month apprenticeship after graduation from a school of mortuary science. The bill would authorize an applicant for a license to practice embalming to complete the 12-month apprenticeship as either a:

- Full apprenticeship, with all 12 months being served after graduation from a school of mortuary science; or
- Split apprenticeship, with the 12-month period being split into 2 continuous 6-month periods. The bill would require the first 6-month period to be completed within 12 months prior to the individual's enrollment in the school of mortuary science, and the remaining 6 months would be completed after graduation.

The bill would specify that an applicant completing a split apprenticeship would be required to submit an examination approved by the Board of Mortuary Arts to be eligible for the second six-month period of the apprenticeship.

*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>

Apprentice embalmers pursuing a split apprenticeship would be required to practice under the direct personal supervision of a licensed embalmer for the first six months of their apprenticeship.

The bill would also make technical changes.

Background

The bill was introduced by the House Committee on Health and Human Services at the request of Representative Eplee on behalf of the Kansas Funeral Directors Association (KFDA).

House Committee on Health and Human Services

In the House Committee hearing, **proponent** testimony was provided by a representative of the KFDA, who stated Kansas is experiencing a shortage of embalmers, and the addition of split apprenticeships would shorten the timeframe for individuals to become licensed. The proponent also stated the option of split apprenticeship would help individuals experience the practicalities of the embalming profession before enrolling in a school of mortuary science.

No other testimony was provided.

Fiscal Information

According to the fiscal note prepared by the Division of the Budget on the bill, the State Board of Mortuary Arts (Board) indicates the agency would incur costs for additional staff time if enactment of the bill would cause changes in the agency's current administrative rules and regulations. However, the Board indicates any fiscal effect would be negligible.

Embalmers; educational requirements; apprenticeships; mortuary science; Board of Mortuary Arts