

SESSION OF 2023

**SUPPLEMENTAL NOTE ON HOUSE BILL NO. 2284**

As Recommended by House Committee on  
Insurance

**Brief\***

HB 2284 would amend law requiring certain municipalities to pay for the premiums for the continuation of insurance coverage under COBRA for the surviving spouse and eligible dependent children of a firefighter who dies in the line of duty. The bill would add “fire district” to the definition of “municipality” to allow such districts to be subject to this continuation of coverage requirement.

Under current law, the term “municipality” means a city, county, or township. The law requires municipalities opting to provide for the payment of health insurance premiums for its firefighters to pay the premiums for continuation of coverage for 18 months.

The bill would also make technical corrections, including the removal of a term no longer included in the statute.

**Background**

The bill was introduced by the House Committee on Insurance at the request of the Kansas State Firefighters Association (KSFFA).

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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>

### ***House Committee on Insurance***

In the House Committee hearing, a KSFFA representative provided **proponent** testimony, stating the bill would correct an oversight and ensure all firefighters in Kansas are eligible to draw on COBRA coverage, which would make health insurance available to the spouse and dependent children in the same manner as provided prior to the line of duty death of a firefighter.

No other testimony was provided.

The House Committee recommended the bill be placed on the Consent Calendar.

### **Fiscal Information**

According to the fiscal note prepared by the Division of the Budget on the bill, the League of Kansas Municipalities indicates the bill would have no fiscal effect.

Insurance; line of duty death; firefighters; continuation of coverage; COBRA premiums; fire districts