

HOUSE BILL No. 2023

AN ACT concerning legislative review of exceptions to open records;
amending K.S.A. 2014 Supp. 45-229 and 60-3351 and repealing the existing sections.

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

Section 1. K.S.A. 2014 Supp. 45-229 is hereby amended to read as follows: 45-229. (a) It is the intent of the legislature that exceptions to disclosure under the open records act shall be created or maintained only if:

- (1) The public record is of a sensitive or personal nature concerning individuals;
- (2) the public record is necessary for the effective and efficient administration of a governmental program; or
- (3) the public record affects confidential information.

The maintenance or creation of an exception to disclosure must be compelled as measured by these criteria. Further, the legislature finds that the public has a right to have access to public records unless the criteria in this section for restricting such access to a public record are met and the criteria are considered during legislative review in connection with the particular exception to disclosure to be significant enough to override the strong public policy of open government. To strengthen the policy of open government, the legislature shall consider the criteria in this section before enacting an exception to disclosure.

(b) Subject to the provisions of subsections (g) and (h), any new exception to disclosure or substantial amendment of an existing exception shall expire on July 1 of the fifth year after enactment of the new exception or substantial amendment, unless the legislature acts to continue the exception. A law that enacts a new exception or substantially amends an existing exception shall state that the exception expires at the end of five years and that the exception shall be reviewed by the legislature before the scheduled date.

(c) For purposes of this section, an exception is substantially amended if the amendment expands the scope of the exception to include more records or information. An exception is not substantially amended if the amendment narrows the scope of the exception.

(d) This section is not intended to repeal an exception that has been amended following legislative review before the scheduled repeal of the exception if the exception is not substantially amended as a result of the review.

(e) In the year before the expiration of an exception, the revisor of statutes shall certify to the president of the senate and the speaker of the house of representatives, by July 15, the language and statutory citation of each exception which will expire in the following year which meets the criteria of an exception as defined in this section. Any exception that is not identified and certified to the president of the senate and the speaker of the house of representatives is not subject to legislative review and shall not expire. If the revisor of statutes fails to certify an exception that the revisor subsequently determines should have been certified, the revisor shall include the exception in the following year's certification after that determination.

(f) "Exception" means any provision of law which creates an exception to disclosure or limits disclosure under the open records act pursuant to K.S.A. 45-221, and amendments thereto, or pursuant to any other provision of law.

(g) A provision of law which creates or amends an exception to disclosure under the open records law shall not be subject to review and expiration under this act if such provision:

- (1) Is required by federal law;
- (2) applies solely to the legislature or to the state court system;
- (3) has been reviewed and continued in existence twice by the legislature; or
- (4) has been reviewed and continued in existence by the legislature during the 2013 legislative session and thereafter.

(h) (1) The legislature shall review the exception before its scheduled expiration and consider as part of the review process the following:

- (A) What specific records are affected by the exception;
- (B) whom does the exception uniquely affect, as opposed to the general public;
- (C) what is the identifiable public purpose or goal of the exception;

(D) whether the information contained in the records may be obtained readily by alternative means and how it may be obtained;

(2) an exception may be created or maintained only if it serves an identifiable public purpose and may be no broader than is necessary to meet the public purpose it serves. An identifiable public purpose is served if the legislature finds that the purpose is sufficiently compelling to override the strong public policy of open government and cannot be accomplished without the exception and if the exception:

(A) Allows the effective and efficient administration of a governmental program, which administration would be significantly impaired without the exception;

(B) protects information of a sensitive personal nature concerning individuals, the release of which information would be defamatory to such individuals or cause unwarranted damage to the good name or reputation of such individuals or would jeopardize the safety of such individuals. Only information that would identify the individuals may be excepted under this paragraph; or

(C) protects information of a confidential nature concerning entities, including, but not limited to, a formula, pattern, device, combination of devices, or compilation of information which is used to protect or further a business advantage over those who do not know or use it, the disclosure of which information would injure the affected entity in the marketplace.

(3) Records made before the date of the expiration of an exception shall be subject to disclosure as otherwise provided by law. In deciding whether the records shall be made public, the legislature shall consider whether the damage or loss to persons or entities uniquely affected by the exception of the type specified in paragraph (2)(B) or (2)(C) of this subsection (h) would occur if the records were made public.

(i) (1) Exceptions contained in the following statutes as continued in existence in section 2 of chapter 126 of the 2005 Session Laws of Kansas and which have been reviewed and continued in existence twice by the legislature as provided in subsection (g) are hereby continued in existence: 1-401, 2-1202, 5-512, 9-1137, 9-1712, 9-2217, 10-630, 11-306, 12-189, 12-1,108, 12-1694, 12-1698, 12-2819, 12-4516, 16-715, 16a-2-304, 17-1312e, 17-2227, 17-5832, 17-7511, 17-7514, 17-76,139, 19-4321, 21-2511, 22-3711, 22-4707, 22-4909, 22a-243, 22a-244, 23-605, 23-9,312, 25-4161, 25-4165, 31-405, 34-251, 38-2212, 39-709b, 39-719e, 39-934, 39-1434, 39-1704, 40-222, 40-2,156, 40-2c20, 40-2c21, 40-2d20, 40-2d21, 40-409, 40-956, 40-1128, 40-2807, 40-3012, 40-3304, 40-3308, 40-3403b, 40-3421, 40-3613, 40-3805, 40-4205, 44-510j, 44-550b, 44-594, 44-635, 44-714, 44-817, 44-1005, 44-1019, ~~subsections (a)(1) through (43) of 45-221(a)(1) through (43)~~, 46-256, 46-259, 46-2201, 47-839, 47-844, 47-849, 47-1709, 48-1614, 49-406, 49-427, 55-1,102, 58-4114, 59-2135, 59-2802, 59-2979, 59-29b79, 60-3333, 60-3336, 65-102b, 65-118, 65-119, 65-153f, 65-170g, 65-177, 65-1,106, 65-1,113, 65-1,116, 65-1,157a, 65-1,163, 65-1,165, 65-1,168, 65-1,169, 65-1,171, 65-1,172, 65-436, 65-445, 65-507, 65-525, 65-531, 65-657, 65-1135, 65-1467, 65-1627, 65-1831, 65-2422d, 65-2438, 65-2836, 65-2839a, 65-2898a, 65-3015, 65-3447, 65-34,108, 65-34,126, 65-4019, 65-4922, 65-4925, 65-5602, 65-5603, 65-6002, 65-6003, 65-6004, 65-6010, 65-67a05, 65-6803, 65-6804, 66-101c, 66-117, 66-151, 66-1,190, 66-1,203, 66-1220a, 66-2010, 72-996, 72-4311, 72-4452, 72-5214, 72-53,106, 72-5427, 72-8903, 73-1228, 74-2424, 74-2433f, 74-4905, 74-4909, 74-50,131, 74-5515, 74-7308, 74-7338, 74-8104, 74-8307, 74-8705, 74-8804, 74-9805, 75-104, 75-712, 75-7b15, 75-1267, 75-2943, 75-4332, 75-4362, 75-5133, 75-5266, 75-5665, 75-5666, 75-7310, 76-355, 76-359, 76-493, 76-12b11, 76-3305, 79-1119, 79-1437f, 79-3234, 79-3395, 79-3420, 79-3499, 79-34,113, 79-3614, 79-3657, 79-4301 and 79-5206.

(2) Exceptions contained in the following statutes as certified by the revisor of statutes to the president of the senate and the speaker of the house of representatives pursuant to subsection (e) ~~during 2009 and which have been reviewed during the 2015 legislative session and continued in existence by the legislature as provided in subsection (g)~~ are hereby continued in existence ~~until July 1, 2015, at which time such exceptions shall expire~~: 17-2036, 40-5301, ~~subsections (a)(45) and (a)(46) of 45-221(a)(45), (46) and (49), 48-16a10, 58-4616, 60-3351, 72-972a, 74-50,217, 74-99d05 and 75-53,105.~~

(j) (1) Exceptions contained in the following statutes as continued in existence in section 1 of chapter 87 of the 2006 Session Laws of Kansas

and which have been reviewed and continued in existence twice by the legislature as provided in subsection (g) are hereby continued in existence: 1-501, 9-1303, 12-4516a, 39-970, 65-525, 65-5117, 65-6016, 65-6017 and 74-7508.

(2) Exceptions contained in the following statutes as certified by the revisor of statutes to the president of the senate and the speaker of the house of representatives pursuant to subsection (e) during 2010 are hereby continued in existence until July 1, 2016, at which time such exceptions shall expire: 12-5358, 12-5611, 22-4906, 22-4909, 38-2310, 38-2311, 38-2326, 44-1132, 60-3333, 65-6154, 71-218, 75-457, 75-712c, 75-723 and 75-7c06.

(k) Exceptions contained in the following statutes as certified by the revisor of statutes to the president of the senate and the speaker of the house of representatives pursuant to subsection (e) and which have been reviewed during the 2014 legislative session and continued in existence by the legislature as provided in subsection (g) are hereby continued in existence: 1-205, 2-2204, 8-240, 8-247, 8-255c, 8-1324, 8-1325, 12-17,150, 12-2001, 17-12a607, 38-1008, 38-2209, 40-5006, 40-5108, 41-2905, 41-2906, 44-706, 44-1518, ~~subsections (a)(44), (45), (46), (47) and (48) of 45-221(a)(44), (45), (46), (47) and (48)~~, 50-6a11, 56-1a610, 56a-1204, 65-1,243, 65-16,104, 65-3239, 74-50,184, 74-8134, 74-99b06, 77-503a and 82a-2210.

(l) Exceptions contained in the following statutes as certified by the revisor of statutes to the president of the senate and the speaker of the house of representatives pursuant to subsection (e) during 2011 are hereby continued in existence until July 1, 2017, at which time such exceptions shall expire: 12-5711, 21-2511, 38-2313, 65-516, 74-8745, 74-8752, 74-8772 and 75-7427.

(m) Exceptions contained in the following statutes as certified by the revisor of statutes to the president of the senate and the speaker of the house of representatives pursuant to subsection (e) during 2012 and which have been reviewed during the 2013 legislative session and continued in existence by the legislature as provided in subsection (g) are hereby continued in existence: 12-5811, 40-222, 40-223j, 40-5007a, 40-5009a, 40-5012a, 65-1685, 65-1695, 65-2838a, 66-1251, 66-1805, 72-60c01, 75-712 and 75-5366.

Sec. 2. K.S.A. 2014 Supp. 60-3351 is hereby amended to read as follows: 60-3351. (a) Except as provided in K.S.A. 60-3352 and 60-3353, and amendments thereto, an insurance compliance self-evaluative audit document is privileged information and is not discoverable, or admissible as evidence in any legal action in any civil, criminal or administrative proceeding. The privilege created herein is a matter of substantive law of this state and is not merely a procedural matter governing civil or criminal procedures in the courts of this state.

(b) If any insurance company, person, or entity performs or directs the performance of an insurance compliance audit, an officer, employee or agent involved with the insurance compliance audit, or any consultant who is hired for the purpose of performing the insurance compliance audit, may not be examined in any civil, criminal or administrative proceeding as to the insurance compliance audit or any insurance compliance self-evaluative audit document, as defined in this section. This subsection (b) shall not apply if the privilege set forth in subsection (a) of this section is determined under K.S.A. 60-3352 and 60-3353, and amendments thereto, not to apply.

(c) Any insurance company may voluntarily submit, in connection with any examination conducted under chapter 40 of the Kansas Statutes Annotated, and amendments thereto, an insurance compliance self-evaluative audit document to the commissioner as a confidential document in the same manner as provided in chapter 40 of the Kansas Statutes Annotated, and amendments thereto, for documents required to be provided to the commissioner in the course of an examination by the commissioner without waiving the privilege set forth in this section to which the insurance company would otherwise be entitled. Any provision in chapter 40 of the Kansas Statutes Annotated, and amendments thereto, permitting the commissioner to make confidential documents public or to grant the national association of insurance commissioners access to confidential documents shall not apply to the insurance compliance self-

evaluative audit document voluntarily submitted by an insurance company. To the extent that the commissioner has the authority to compel the disclosure of an insurance compliance self-evaluative audit document under other provisions of applicable law, any such report furnished to the commissioner shall not be provided to any other persons or entities and shall be accorded the same confidentiality and other protections as provided above for voluntarily submitted documents. Any use of an insurance compliance self-evaluative audit document furnished as a result of a request of the commissioner under a claim of authority to compel disclosure shall be limited to determining whether or not any disclosed defects in an insurers' policies and procedures or inappropriate treatment of customers has been remedied or that an appropriate plan for their remedy is in place.

(1) Any insurance company's insurance compliance self-evaluative audit document submitted to the commissioner shall remain subject to all applicable statutory or common law privileges including, but not limited to, the work product doctrine, attorney-client privilege, or the subsequent remedial measures exclusion.

(2) Any compliance self-evaluative audit document so submitted and in the possession of the commissioner shall remain the property of the insurance company and shall not be subject to any disclosure or production under the Kansas open records act. ~~The provision of this paragraph shall expire on July 1, 2015, unless the legislature reenacts such provision. The provision of this paragraph shall be reviewed by the legislature prior to July 1, 2015.~~

(d) Disclosure of an insurance compliance self-evaluative audit document to a governmental agency, whether voluntary or pursuant to compulsion of law, shall not constitute a waiver of the privilege set forth in subsection (a) with respect to any other persons or any other governmental agencies. Nothing in this act shall prohibit the division of post audit from having access to all insurance compliance self-evaluative audit documents in the custody of the commissioner.

Sec. 3. K.S.A. 2014 Supp. 45-229 and 60-3351 are hereby repealed.

Sec. 4. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its publication in the statute book.

I hereby certify that the above BILL originated in the HOUSE, and passed that body

Speaker of the House.

Chief Clerk of the House.

Passed the SENATE _____

President of the Senate.

Secretary of the Senate.

APPROVED _____

Governor.