Session of 2025

HOUSE BILL No. 2337

By Committee on Financial Institutions and Pensions

Requested by Robert Jacobs on behalf of the Kansas Bureau of Investigation

2-7

1 AN ACT concerning money transmission; imposing a fee on each 2 international transaction by a money transmitter by wire; establishing 3 an income tax credit for fees paid; allowing the state bank 4 commissioner to assess penalties for the nonpayment of such fees; 5 providing for the distribution of such fee and penalty moneys; 6 establishing the criminal litigation fund, wire transfer fee fund and 7 prosecutor and law enforcement grant fund; creating a misdemeanor crime of unlawful transmission of a wire transfer and providing 8 9 criminal penalties therefor; amending K.S.A. 2024 Supp. 9-555 and 75-10 5133 and repealing the existing sections.

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

13 New Section 1. (a) Any money transmitter by wire, as defined in 14 K.S.A. 2024 Supp. 9-555, and amendments thereto, shall collect a fee of 15 \$7.50 for each international transaction of \$500 or less, or an amount equal 16 to 1.5% of any international transaction in excess of \$500. A receipt for 17 such fee shall be issued to the customer.

18 (b) Any such money transmitter by wire shall file monthly reports 19 and returns with the director of taxation electronically at such times, in 20 such form and with such information, including records of all international 21 transaction receipts, as required by the director of taxation. The money 22 transmitter by wire, at the time of filing such monthly return, shall pay by 23 electronic fund transfer to the director of taxation the amount of fees 24 collected as provided by this section. Such return and payment of fees 25 shall be due on or before the 25th day of each month following the monthly 26 reporting period of the return.

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- (c) The secretary of revenue:

(1) Shall notify the state bank commissioner of any money transmitterby wire that has not filed a monthly report for more than 60 days;

(2) may, upon request of the commissioner, assist in conducting
 audits and the seeking of legal remedies to ensure compliance with this
 section;

(3) may request the commissioner to make a claim against the surety
bond of the money transmitter by wire for unpaid fees, interest and fines
on behalf of the state; and

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1 (4) may adopt rules and regulations necessary to administer the 2 provisions of subsections (a) through (c).

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(d) The commissioner may:

4 (1) Assess penalties equal to the amount of fees owed for 5 nonpayment of fees as provided in this section;

6 (2) make a claim against the surety bond of the licensee for unpaid 7 fees, interest and fines on behalf of the state upon the request of the 8 director of taxation; and

9 (3) adopt rules and regulations necessary to administer the provisions 10 of this subsection.

(e) (1) All money transmitter by wire fee moneys collected by the 11 director of taxation and all penalties assessed by the commissioner 12 pursuant to this section shall be remitted to the state treasurer on July 15, 13 2026, and each July 15, thereafter. Upon receipt of each such remittance, 14 the state treasurer shall deposit the entire amount in the state treasury and 15 16 shall credit to the state general fund an amount equal to the amount of tax credits allowed under section 5, and amendments thereto, for the 17 immediately preceding tax year, as certified by the director of taxation. 18 19 The balance of such fee and penalty moneys shall be credited as follows:

20 (A) 30% to the criminal litigation fund established in section 2, and 21 amendments thereto;

(B) 45% to the wire transfer fee fund established in section 3, andamendments thereto; and

24 (C) 25% to the prosecutor and law enforcement grant fund 25 established in section 4, and amendments thereto.

26 (2) At the same time that the director of taxation transmits 27 certification to the state treasurer, the director of taxation shall transmit a 28 copy of each such certification to the director of the budget and the 29 director of legislative research.

(f) The provisions of K.S.A. 79-3609, 79-3610, 79-3611, 79-3612,
79-3615, 79-3617 and 79-3643, and amendments thereto, shall apply to the
administration and enforcement of the fee authorized by this section.

33 New Sec. 2. There is hereby established in the state treasury the 34 criminal litigation fund. The criminal litigation fund shall be administered 35 by the attorney general. All expenditures from such fund shall be for the 36 costs of investigating and prosecuting criminal cases. No expenditures 37 shall be made from such fund for the activities of the medicaid fraud and 38 abuse division created by K.S.A. 75-725, and amendments thereto. All 39 expenditures from such fund shall be made in accordance with 40 appropriation acts upon warrants of the director of accounts and reports issued pursuant to vouchers approved by the attorney general or the 41 attorney general's designee. 42

43 New Sec. 3. There is hereby established in the state treasury the wire

transfer fee fund. The wire transfer fee fund shall be administered by the director of the Kansas bureau of investigation. All expenditures from such fund shall be for complex drug and white-collar criminal investigations. All expenditures from such fund shall be made in accordance with appropriation acts upon warrants of the director of accounts and reports issued pursuant to vouchers approved by the director of the Kansas bureau of investigation or the director's designee.

8 New Sec. 4. (a) There is hereby established in the state treasury the 9 prosecutor and law enforcement grant fund. The prosecutor and law 10 enforcement grant fund shall be administered by the Kansas criminal justice coordinating council established by K.S.A. 74-9501, and 11 12 amendments thereto. All moneys credited to such fund shall be for the 13 purpose of awarding grants to county attorneys or district attorneys or local law enforcement agencies in accordance with the standards and 14 statewide strategic plan adopted for the federal Edward Byrne memorial 15 16 justice assistance grant program. All expenditures from such fund shall be 17 made in accordance with appropriation acts upon warrants of the director 18 of accounts and reports issued pursuant to vouchers approved by the 19 chairperson of the Kansas criminal justice coordinating council or the 20 chairperson's designee.

(b) Any law enforcement agency that has a policy of refusing or failing to coordinate with federal immigration authorities or refuses to honor an immigration detainer to the best of their ability shall be ineligible for any distribution of funds from the prosecutor and law enforcement grant fund. The attorney general shall identify, on an annual basis, to the Kansas criminal justice coordinating council any agency that is ineligible for funds pursuant to this subsection.

New Sec. 5. (a) For taxable years commencing after December 31, 2023, there shall be allowed a credit against the tax imposed by the Kansas income tax act and the privilege tax pursuant to K.S.A. 79-1106 et seq., and amendments thereto, an amount equal to the amount of any fees paid pursuant to the provisions of section 1, and amendments thereto, during the tax year.

34 (b) The credit allowed by this section shall not exceed the amount of 35 tax imposed under the Kansas income tax act or the privilege tax reduced 36 by the sum of any other credits allowable pursuant to law. If the amount of 37 such tax credit exceeds the taxpayer's income or privilege tax liability for 38 such tax year, the taxpayer may carry over the amount that exceeds such 39 tax liability for deduction from the taxpayer's liability in the next 40 succeeding tax year or years until the total amount of the tax credit has been deducted from tax liability, except that no such tax credit shall be 41 carried over for deduction after the 5th tax year succeeding the tax year in 42 43 which the expenditures were incurred.

New Sec. 6. (a) Unlawful transmission of a wire transfer is any of the 1 2 following when done by a person who is not a United States citizen or an alien who is lawfully present in the United States: 3

(1) Sending or receiving a wire transfer;

5 (2) depositing money in a financial institution for the purpose of 6 sending a wire transfer; or 7

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(3) withdrawing the proceeds of a wire transfer.

8 (b) Unlawful transmission of a wire transfer is a class C nonperson 9 misdemeanor.

10 (c) This section shall be a part of and supplemental to the Kansas 11 criminal code

12 Sec. 7. K.S.A. 2024 Supp. 9-555 is hereby amended to read as follows: 9-555. (a) K.S.A. 2024 Supp. 9-555 through 9-596, and 13 amendments thereto, shall be known and may be cited as the Kansas 14 money transmission act. 15

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(b) As used in the Kansas money transmission act:

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(1) "Act" means the Kansas money transmission act.

(2) "Acting in concert" means persons knowingly acting together 18 19 with a common goal of jointly acquiring control of a licensee whether or not pursuant to an express agreement. 20

21 (3) "Authorized delegate" means a person designated by a licensee to 22 engage in money transmission on behalf of the licensee.

23 (4) "Average daily money transmission liability" means the amount of the licensee's outstanding money transmission obligations in Kansas at the 24 25 end of each day in a given period of time added together and divided by the total number of days in the given period of time. For any licensee 26 required to calculate "average daily money transmission liability" pursuant 27 to this act, the given period of time shall be the calendar quarters ending 28 29 March 31, June 30, September 30 and December 31.

(5) "Closed loop stored value" means stored value that is redeemable 30 by the issuer only for goods or services provided by the issuer or the 31 32 issuer's affiliates or franchisees of the issuer or the franchisees's affiliates, 33 except to the extent required by applicable law to be redeemable in cash 34 for its cash value.

35 (6) "Commissioner" means the state bank commissioner, or a person 36 designated by the state bank commissioner to enforce this act.

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(7) "Control" means the power to:

(A) Vote directly or indirectly at least 25% of the outstanding voting 38 39 shares or voting interests of a licensee or person in control of a licensee;

(B) elect or appoint a majority of key individuals or executive 40 officers, managers, directors, trustees or other persons exercising 41 managerial authority of a person in control of a licensee; or 42

43 (C) exercise, directly or indirectly, a controlling influence over the 1 management or policies of a licensee or person in control of a licensee.

(8) "Eligible rating" means a credit rating from any of the three
highest rating categories provided by an eligible rating service. Each rating
category may include rating category modifiers such as plus or minus for
Standard & Poor or the equivalent for any other eligible rating service.
"Eligible rating" shall be determined as follows:

(A) Long-term credit ratings shall be deemed eligible if the rating is
equal to A- or higher by Standard & Poor or the equivalent from any other
eligible rating service.

10 (B) Short-term credit ratings are deemed eligible if the rating is equal 11 to or higher than A-2 or SP-2 by Standard & Poor or the equivalent from 12 any other eligible rating service. If ratings differ among eligible rating 13 services, the highest rating shall apply when determining whether a 14 security bears an eligible rating.

(9) "Eligible rating service" means any nationally recognized
statistical rating organization that has been registered by the securities and
exchange commission or any organization designated by the commissioner
through order or rules and regulations as an eligible rating service.

(10) "Federally insured depository financial institution" means a bank, credit union, savings and loan association, trust company, savings association, savings bank, industrial bank or industrial loan company organized under the laws of the United States or any state of the United States, when such bank, credit union, savings and loan association, trust company, savings association, savings bank, industrial bank or industrial loan company has federally insured deposits.

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(11) "In Kansas" means the:

27 (A) Physical location of a person who is requesting a transaction in28 person in the state of Kansas; or

(B) person's residential address or the principal place of business for a
 person requesting a transaction electronically or by telephone if such
 residential address or principal place of business is in the state of Kansas.

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(12) "Individual" means a natural person.

(13) "Key individual" means any individual ultimately responsible for
establishing or directing policies and procedures of the licensee, including,
but not limited to, an executive officer, manager, director or trustee.

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(14) "Licensee" means a person licensed under this act.

(15) "Material litigation" means litigation, that according to United
States generally accepted accounting principles, is significant to a person's
financial health and would be a required disclosure in the person's annual
audited financial statements, report to shareholders or similar records.

41 (16) "Money" means a medium of exchange that is authorized or
42 adopted by the United States or a foreign government. "Money" includes a
43 monetary unit of account established by an intergovernmental organization

1 or by agreement between two or more governments.

2 (17) "Monetary value" means a medium of exchange, whether or not 3 redeemable in money.

(18) (A) "Money transmission" means any of the following:

5 (i) Selling or issuing payment instruments to a person located in 6 Kansas: 7

(ii) selling or issuing stored value to a person located in Kansas;

8 (iii) receiving money for transmission from a person located in 9 Kansas; or

10 (iv) payroll processing services.

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(B) "Money transmission" does not include the provision of solely 11 online or telecommunications services or network access. 12

(19) "Money service business accredited state" means a state agency 13 that is accredited by the conference of state bank supervisors and money 14 transmitter regulators association for money transmission licensing and 15 16 supervision.

17 (20) "Money transmitter by wire" means any person receiving payment for the service of sending or receiving money from another 18 location or person. "Money transmitter by wire" does not include: 19

20 (A) The United States government or a department, agency or 21 *instrumentality thereof;*

22 (B) money transmission by the United States postal service or by a 23 contractor on behalf of the United States postal service;

(C) a state, county, city or any other governmental agency or 24 25 political subdivision of a state;

(D) electronic funds transfer of governmental benefits for a federal, 26 state, county or governmental agency by a contractor on behalf of the 27 United States government or a department, agency or instrumentality 28 29 thereof, a state or governmental subdivision, agency or instrumentality 30 thereof:

31 (E) a board of trade designated as a contract market under the 32 federal commodity exchange act or a person that, in the ordinary course of business, provides clearance and settlement services for a board of 33 trade to the extent of such person's operation as or for such a board of 34 35 trade:

36 (F) a registered futures commission merchant under the federal 37 commodities law to the extent of its operation as such merchant;

38 (G) a person that provides clearance or settlement services pursuant 39 to a registration as a clearing agency or an exemption from such registration granted under federal securities law to the extent of such 40 41 person's operation as a provider;

42 (H) an operator of a payment system to the extent that such operator 43 provides processing, clearing or settlement services, between or among persons excluded by this subsection, in connection with wire transfers,
 credit card transactions, debit card transactions, stored-value
 transactions, automated clearing house transfers or similar funds
 transfers;

5 (1) a person registered as a securities broker-dealer under federal or 6 state securities law to the extent of such person's operation as a broker-7 dealer; or

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(J) a federally insured depository financial institution.

9 (20)(21) "Multistate licensing process" means any agreement entered 10 into by state regulators relating to coordinated processing of applications 11 for money transmission licenses, applications for the acquisition of control 12 of a licensee, control determinations or notice and information 13 requirements for a change of key individuals.

14 (21)(22) "Nationwide multistate licensing system and registry" means 15 a licensing system developed by the conference of state bank supervisors 16 and the American association of residential mortgage regulators and 17 owned and operated by the state regulatory registry, limited liability 18 company or any successor or affiliated entity for the licensing and 19 registration of persons in financial services industries.

(22)(23) (A) "Outstanding money transmission obligation" means:

(i) Any payment instrument or stored value issued or sold by the
licensee to a person located in the United States or reported as sold by an
authorized delegate of the licensee to a person that is located in the United
States that has not yet been paid or refunded by or for the licensee or
escheated in accordance with applicable abandoned property laws; or

(ii) any money received for transmission by the licensee or an
authorized delegate in the United States from a person located in the
United States that has not been received by the payee or refunded to the
sender or escheated in accordance with applicable abandoned property
laws.

(B) "In the United States" includes a person in any state, territory or
possession of the United States, the District of Columbia, the
commonwealth of Puerto Rico or a United States military installation that
is located in a foreign country.

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(23)(24) "Passive investor" means a person that:

(A) Does not have the power to elect a majority of key individuals or
 executive officers, managers, directors, trustees or other persons exercising
 managerial authority of a person in control of a licensee;

(B) is not employed by and does not have any managerial duties ofthe licensee or person in control of a licensee; or

41 (C) does not have the power to exercise, directly or indirectly, a 42 controlling influence over the management or policies of a licensee or 43 person in control of a licensee; and 1 (D) (i) Either attests to subparagraphs (A), (B) and (C) in a form and 2 in a manner prescribed by the commissioner; or

3 (ii) commits to the passivity characteristics of subparagraphs (A), (B) 4 and (C) in a written document.

5 (24)(25) (A) "Payment instrument" means a written or electronic 6 check, draft, money order, traveler's check or other written or electronic 7 instrument for the transmission or payment of money or monetary value, 8 regardless of negotiability.

9 (B) "Payment instrument" does not include stored value or any 10 instrument that is:

(i) Redeemable by the issuer only for goods or services provided by
the issuer or the issuer's affiliate or franchisees of the issuer or the
franchisees' affiliate, except to the extent required by applicable law to be
redeemable in cash for its cash value; or

15 (ii) not sold to the public but issued and distributed as part of a 16 loyalty, rewards or promotional program.

17 (25)(26) "Payroll processing services" means the receipt of money for 18 transmission pursuant to a contract with a person to deliver wages or 19 salaries, make payment of payroll taxes to state and federal agencies, make 20 payments relating to employee benefit plans or make distributions of other 21 authorized deductions from wages or salaries. "Payroll processing 22 services" does not include an employer performing payroll processing 23 services on the employer's own behalf or on behalf of an affiliate.

(26)(27) "Person" means any individual, general partnership, limited
 partnership, limited liability company, corporation, trust, association, joint
 stock corporation or other corporate entity identified or recognized by the
 commissioner.

32 (28)(29) "Stored value" means monetary value representing a claim 33 against the issuer evidenced by an electronic or digital record and that is intended and accepted for use as a means of redemption for money or 34 monetary value or payment for goods or services. "Stored value" includes, 35 but is not limited to, prepaid access as defined by 31 C.F.R. § 1010.100. 36 37 "Stored value" does not include a payment instrument or closed loop stored value or stored value not sold to the public but issued and 38 39 distributed as part of a loyalty, rewards or promotional program.

40 (29)(30) "Tangible net worth" means the aggregate assets of a 41 licensee excluding all intangible assets, less liabilities, as determined in 42 accordance with United States generally accepted accounting principles.

43 (c) This section shall take effect on and after January 1, 2025.

Sec. 8. K.S.A. 2024 Supp. 75-5133 is hereby amended to read as 1 2 follows: 75-5133. (a) Except as otherwise more specifically provided by law, all information received by the secretary of revenue, the director of 3 4 taxation or the director of alcoholic beverage control from returns, reports, 5 license applications or registration documents made or filed under the 6 provisions of any law imposing any sales, use or other excise tax 7 administered by the secretary of revenue, the director of taxation, or the 8 director of alcoholic beverage control, or from any investigation conducted under such provisions, shall be confidential, and it shall be unlawful for 9 any officer or employee of the department of revenue to divulge any such 10 information except in accordance with other provisions of law respecting 11 the enforcement and collection of such tax, in accordance with proper 12 judicial order or as provided in K.S.A. 74-2424, and amendments thereto. 13

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(b) The secretary of revenue or the secretary's designee may:

(1) Publish statistics, so classified as to prevent identification ofparticular reports or returns and the items thereof;

17 (2) allow the inspection of returns by the attorney general or the18 attorney general's designee;

(3) provide the post auditor access to all such excise tax reports or
returns in accordance with and subject to the provisions of K.S.A. 461106(e), and amendments thereto;

(4) disclose taxpayer information from excise tax returns to persons
 or entities contracting with the secretary of revenue where the secretary
 has determined disclosure of such information is essential for completion
 of the contract and has taken appropriate steps to preserve confidentiality;

(5) provide information from returns and reports filed under article 42 of chapter 79 of the Kansas Statutes Annotated, and amendments thereto, to county appraisers as is necessary to ensure proper valuations of property. Information from such returns and reports may also be exchanged with any other state agency administering and collecting conservation or other taxes and fees imposed on or measured by mineral production;

33 (6) provide, upon request by a city or county clerk or treasurer or 34 finance officer of any city or county receiving distributions from a local 35 excise tax, monthly reports identifying each retailer doing business in such 36 city or county or making taxable sales sourced to such city or county, 37 setting forth the tax liability and the amount of such tax remitted by each 38 retailer during the preceding month, and identifying each business location 39 maintained by the retailer and such retailer's sales or use tax registration or 40 account number;

41 (7) provide information from returns and applications for registration
42 filed pursuant to K.S.A. 12-187, and amendments thereto, and K.S.A. 7943 3601, and amendments thereto, to a city or county treasurer or clerk or

finance officer to explain the basis of statistics contained in reports
 provided by subsection (b)(6);

(8) disclose the following oil and gas production statistics received by 3 the department of revenue in accordance with K.S.A. 79-4216 et seq., and 4 5 amendments thereto: Volumes of production by well name, well number, 6 operator's name and identification number assigned by the state 7 corporation commission, lease name, leasehold property description, 8 county of production or zone of production, name of purchaser and purchaser's tax identification number assigned by the department of 9 revenue, name of transporter, field code number or lease code, tax period, 10 exempt production volumes by well name or lease, or any combination of 11 this information: 12

(9) release or publish liquor brand registration information provided
by suppliers, farm wineries, microdistilleries and microbreweries in
accordance with the liquor control act. The information to be released is
limited to: Item number, universal numeric code, type status, product
description, alcohol percentage, selling units, unit size, unit of
measurement, supplier number, supplier name, distributor number and
distributor name;

(10) release or publish liquor license information provided by liquor
licensees, distributors, suppliers, farm wineries, microdistilleries and
microbreweries in accordance with the liquor control act. The information
to be released is limited to: County name, owner, business name, address,
license type, license number, license expiration date and the process agent
contact information;

(11) release or publish cigarette and tobacco license information
 obtained from cigarette and tobacco licensees in accordance with the
 Kansas cigarette and tobacco products act. The information to be released
 is limited to: County name, owner, business name, address, license type
 and license number;

(12) provide environmental surcharge or solvent fee, or both,
information from returns and applications for registration filed pursuant to
K.S.A. 65-34,150 and 65-34,151, and amendments thereto, to the secretary
of health and environment or the secretary's designee for the sole purpose
of ensuring that retailers collect the environmental surcharge tax or solvent
fee, or both;

(13) provide water protection fee information from returns and applications for registration filed pursuant to K.S.A. 82a-954, and amendments thereto, to the secretary of the state board of agriculture or the secretary's designee and the secretary of the Kansas water office or the secretary's designee for the sole purpose of verifying revenues deposited to the state water plan fund;

43 (14) provide to the secretary of commerce copies of applications for

1 project exemption certificates sought by any taxpayer under the enterprise 2 zone sales tax exemption pursuant to K.S.A. 79-3606(cc), and 3 amendments thereto;

4 (15) disclose information received pursuant to the Kansas cigarette 5 and tobacco act and subject to the confidentiality provisions of this act to 6 any criminal justice agency, as defined in K.S.A. 22-4701(c), and 7 amendments thereto, or to any law enforcement officer, as defined in 8 K.S.A. 21-5111, and amendments thereto, on behalf of a criminal justice 9 agency, when requested in writing in conjunction with a pending 10 investigation;

(16) provide to retailers tax exemption information for the sole
 purpose of verifying the authenticity of tax exemption numbers issued by
 the department;

(17) provide information concerning remittance by sellers, as defined
in K.S.A. 12-5363, and amendments thereto, of prepaid wireless 911 fees
from returns to the local collection point administrator, as defined in
K.S.A. 12-5363, and amendments thereto, for purposes of verifying seller
compliance with collection and remittance of such fees;

(18) release or publish charitable gaming information obtained in
charitable gaming licensee and registration applications and renewals in
accordance with the Kansas charitable gaming act, K.S.A. 75-5171 et seq.,
and amendments thereto. The information to be released is limited to: The
name, address, phone number, license registration number and email
address of the organization, distributor or of premises;

(19) provide to the attorney general confidential information for purposes of determining compliance with or enforcing K.S.A. 50-6a01 et seq., and amendments thereto, the master settlement agreement referred to therein and all agreements regarding disputes under the master settlement agreement. The secretary and the attorney general may share the information specified under this subsection with any of the following:

(A) Federal, state or local agencies for the purposes of enforcement
 of corresponding laws of other states; and

(B) a court, arbitrator, data clearinghouse or similar entity for the
purpose of assessing compliance with or making calculations required by
the master settlement agreement or agreements regarding disputes under
the master settlement agreement, and with counsel for the parties or expert
witnesses in any such proceeding, if the information otherwise remains
confidential; and

(20) disclose taxpayer information that is received from income tax
returns to the department of commerce that may be disclosed pursuant to
the provisions of K.S.A. 2024 Supp. 74-50,227, and amendments thereto,
for the purpose of including such information in the database required by
K.S.A. 2024 Supp. 74-50,227, and amendments thereto; *and*

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1 (21) provide information concerning a money transmitter by wire to 2 the state bank commissioner for the purposes of section 1, and 3 amendments thereto.

4 (c) Any person receiving any information under the provisions of 5 subsection (b) shall be subject to the confidentiality provisions of 6 subsection (a) and to the penalty provisions of subsection (d).

7 (d) Any violation of this section shall be a class A, nonperson 8 misdemeanor, and if the offender is an officer or employee of this state, 9 such officer or employee shall be dismissed from office. Reports of 10 violations of this paragraph shall be investigated by the attorney general. 11 The district attorney or county attorney and the attorney general shall have 12 authority to prosecute any violation of this section if the offender is a city 13 or county clerk or treasurer or finance officer of a city or county.

Sec. 9. K.S.A. 2024 Supp. 9-555 and 75-5133 are hereby repealed.

15 Sec. 10. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its 16 publication in the statute book.