SENATE BILL No. 419

By Committee on Judiciary

1-29

AN ACT concerning crimes, punishment and criminal procedure; relating to aggravated endangering a child; increasing the criminal penalties in certain environments associated with fentanyl-related controlled substances or when bodily harm to the child results; amending K.S.A. 21-5601 and repealing the existing section.

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

Section 1. K.S.A. 21-5601 is hereby amended to read as follows: 21-5601. (a) Endangering a child is knowingly and unreasonably causing or permitting a child under the age of 18 years to be placed in a situation in which the child's life, body or health may be endangered.

- (b) Aggravated endangering a child is:
- (1) Recklessly causing or permitting a child under the age of 18 years to be placed in a situation in which the child's life, body or health is endangered;
- (2) causing or permitting such child to be in an environment where the person knows or reasonably should know that any person is distributing, possessing with intent to distribute, manufacturing or attempting to manufacture any methamphetamine, or analog thereof, as defined by subsection (d)(3) or (f)(1) of K.S.A. 65-4107, and amendments thereto or any fentanyl-related controlled substance; or
- (3) causing or permitting such child to be in an environment where the person knows or reasonably should know that:
- (A) Drug paraphernalia or volatile, toxic or flammable chemicals are stored or used for the purpose of manufacturing or attempting to manufacture any methamphetamine, or analog thereof, as defined by subsection (d)(3) or (f)(1) of K.S.A. 65-4107, and amendments thereto; or
- (B) drug paraphernalia or toxic materials, compounds or mixtures are stored or used for the purpose of manufacturing or attempting to manufacture any fentanyl-related controlled substance.
 - (c) (1) Endangering a child is a class A person misdemeanor.
 - (2) Aggravated endangering a child is a:
- (A) Severity level 9, person felony except as provided in subsection (c)(2)(B); and
- 35 (B) severity level 6, person felony when bodily harm is inflicted upon 36 the child.

SB 419 2

(3) The sentence for a violation of aggravated endangering a child shall be served consecutively to any other term or terms of imprisonment imposed. Such sentence shall not be considered a departure and shall not be subject to appeal.

- (d) Nothing in subsection (a) shall be construed to mean a child is endangered for the sole reason the child's parent or guardian, in good faith, selects and depends upon spiritual means alone through prayer, in accordance with the tenets and practice of a recognized church or religious denomination, for the treatment or cure of disease or remedial care of such child
 - (e) As used in this section:
- (1) "Drug paraphernalia," "fentanyl-related controlled substance" and "manufacture"—means mean the same as defined in K.S.A. 21-5701, and amendments thereto; and
- (2) "drug paraphernaliamethamphetamine" means the same as any substance designated in K.S.A. 21-5701 65-4107(d)(3) or (f)(1), and amendments thereto, or any analog thereof.
 - Sec. 2. K.S.A. 21-5601 is hereby repealed.
- 19 Sec. 3. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its 20 publication in the statute book.