

SESSION OF 2002

SUPPLEMENTAL NOTE ON SENATE BILL NO. 507

As Recommended by Senate Committee on
Transportation

Brief*

SB 507 would permit the transfer of boat trailers with a notarized bill of sale and an inspection by the Kansas Highway Patrol.

Background

The Manager of Titles and Registrations of the Division of Vehicles testified in support of the bill. He explained that current law permits boat trailers with a gross weight of 2,000 pounds or less to be titled and registered at the owner's option. Boat trailers that exceed 2,000 pounds, however, must be titled and registered. He further noted that there are instances in which owners do not title and register their boat trailers. Some of these situations are:

- The boat and trailer are maintained and used on private property.
- The owner is unaware that the gross weight of the boat and trailer is over 2,000 pounds.
- The owner is not aware that they are required to title and register the trailer.
- The owner is aware of the requirements but chooses to ignore them.

The Manager noted that in many cases, owners are made aware of the title and registration requirements when they sell or trade their

*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/cgi-bin/fulltext/bills.cgi>

boat trailer, and the purchaser requests a title. Others are informed through enforcement efforts. He further noted owners frequently lack the necessary documentation to acquire a title and registration from the Division of Vehicles and are forced to seek a "quiet title" remedy. Rather than incur the expense and inconvenience of obtaining a "quiet title" action, owners sell or trade their boats and trailers in neighboring states which allow transfer of ownership on a bill of sale.

The Division of Vehicles states that an unknown number of boat trailers with a gross weight of 2,001 pounds or more will be affected by the bill. The amount of increased title and registration fees is expected to be insignificant. Titling and registration of additional trailers will result in more of them being placed on the ad valorem tax rolls resulting in increased property tax collection at the county level.