

SESSION OF 2002

SUPPLEMENTAL NOTE ON SENATE BILL NO. 629

As Amended by Senate Committee on
Federal and State Affairs

Brief*

SB 629 grants certain powers to the Adjutant General's Office and the Division of Emergency Management to deal with emergency and disaster situations.

The bill allows the Adjutant General to appoint regional emergency management coordinators; coordinate the training and preparation of state, local, and interjurisdictional disaster agencies for emergency and disaster situations; and implement an Incident Management System for use during emergency and disaster situations.

The bill authorizes the Division of Emergency Management to develop a regional emergency management system, and to implement the use of an incident management system for emergency and disaster situations.

The bill adds "terrorism" to the definition of disaster. The Senate Committee amendments are clarifying and technical in nature.

Background

SB 629 was requested by the Adjutant General's Office. Major General Greg Gardner, the Adjutant General and Randy Duncan, Kansas Emergency Management Association testified in support of the bill.

Major General Gardner stated that the six regional coordinators will help counties build their emergency plans, train local representatives in

*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>

their roles, and then design and conduct exercises that test those plans and roles. Once a disaster strikes, these regional coordinators will work in the county emergency operations center coordinating mutual aid and support from other local jurisdictions or state and federal agencies.

He said the Incident Management System (IMS) provides a common organization structure, terminology, and unity of command. It allows all first responder and volunteer agencies to integrate horizontally at the local level and vertically through all levels from local and state, to the federal level.

In the Division of the Budget's fiscal note, the Adjutant General's office reported that it would cost \$198,000 from the State General Fund and \$198,000 from federal grants to implement an emergency management system (\$350,000 for six FTE coordinators and \$46,000 for 1.5 FTE to maintain records).