

SESSION OF 2003

**SUPPLEMENTAL NOTE ON SENATE BILL NO. 46**

As Amended by Senate Committee on  
Federal and State Affairs

**Brief\***

SB 46 amends the Kansas Pet Animal Act by requiring an owner to post cash bonds for the care and keeping expenses incurred for animals seized or impounded by the Animal Health Department. The bonds may prevent sales, placements, or euthanasia of such animals. The initial bond would pay for the first 30 days of expenses at which time the owner can post subsequent cash bonds to cover additional expenses. At the end of time for which expenses are covered by the bond, the animals may be sold, placed, or euthanized.

**Background**

The Executive Director of the Kansas Judicial Council, the Legislative Post Auditor, and the Director of the Animal Health Facilities Inspection Division of the Kansas Animal Health Department testified in support of the bill. They said the bill arose from a single case where boarding costs for animals that had been seized from their owners because of health, safety, or welfare reasons had exceeded \$60,000. The Post Audit report proposed posting a bond which would help the Animal Health Department recover the costs of caring for seized animals.

The Senate Committee amendment required the bond to be in cash.

The fiscal note indicated that the Animal Health Department estimated the average annual cost based on a three-year average for all

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\*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/klrd>

animals seized is \$9,000. A bond would require the owner to pay for the expenses of the animal rather than the Department.