

SESSION OF 2003

**SUPPLEMENTAL NOTE ON HOUSE BILL NO. 2086**

As Amended by House Committee on  
Local Government

**Brief\***

HB 2086 amends a law dealing with the opening of county and township roads to provide that if the owner of any property adjacent or abutting a county road which has been laid out but not opened, or which was opened but has not been maintained by the county for at least 20 years, or has not been used by the general public for at least 20 years, desires to have the road opened, then that person has a duty to open the road. Further, the property owner is required to establish a maintainable roadbed and drainage in accordance with minimum standards established by the county engineer.

If there is a dispute between property owners regarding the location of the county road, the county engineer shall determine the location of the road.

The House Committee made a clarifying amendment.

**Background**

Proponents said the bill would place the burden on landowners wanting certain county roads opened in the same way current law does in regard to landowners and township roads.

The bill was supported by the Kansas Association of Counties, the Kansas County Highway Association, the Director of the Ellis County Public Works Department, and a Geary County Commissioner.

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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/kldr>

The bill was opposed by a person owning land in Morris County and living in Wabunsee County.