

SESSION OF 2003

SUPPLEMENTAL NOTE ON HOUSE BILL NO. 2135

As Amended by Senate Committee of the Whole

Brief*

HB 2135 pertains to county roads and to certain highway related designations.

County Roads. These provisions would update the name of the board of highway commissioners (a term no longer in use) to the township board and would repeal numerous obsolete statutes.

The Road to Oz Highway. The bill would also designate part of K-99 Highway as "The Road to Oz." The designation would begin from the junction of US Highway 36 with K-99, south on K-99 Highway to the junction of K-99 and Interstate Highway 70. The Secretary of Transportation would be required to place signs along the highway right-of-way at proper intervals to indicate that the highway is the "The Road to Oz," except that such signs would not be placed until the Secretary receives sufficient moneys from gifts and donations to reimburse the Secretary for the cost of placing such signs. Finally, the Secretary would be allowed to accept and administer gifts and donations to aid in obtaining and installing suitable signs.

The Yellow Brick Road. The bill amends existing law relating to "The Yellow Brick Road" by requiring the Secretary of Transportation to place signs along US Highway 54 to indicate that the highway is "The Yellow Brick Road," except that any additional signs cannot be placed until the Secretary has received sufficient moneys from gifts and donations to reimburse the Secretary for the cost of placing the signs. The amendment also allows the Secretary to accept and administer gifts and donations to aid in obtaining suitable highway signs bearing the proper approved inscription. Finally, the bill would designate the

*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>

City of Liberal as "The Land of Oz" and "The Home of Dorothy of the Wizard of Oz."

Background

HB 2135, as originally proposed, was supported in the House Transportation Committee by the Marshall County Engineer and the Executive Director of the Kansas Association of Counties. No one testified against the bill in the House Transportation Committee.

The Senate Transportation Committee removed section 2 of the bill. Section 2 would have prohibited the board of county commissioners or board of township trustees from renting or buying county or township machinery for any private purpose. Existing law allows such practice for road clearing purposes only. The change was requested by the Executive Director of the Kansas Association of Counties who noted that one county routinely rents machinery for road clearing purposes. The Committee also added the provisions relating to "The Road to Oz" highway. This amendment was proposed by Senator Pugh and supported by Representative Osborne, and various public officials of Wamego and Frankfort, Kansas.

The Senate Committee of the Whole amended the existing provision relating to "The Yellow Brick Road" and designated the City of Liberal as "The Land of Oz" and "The Home of Dorothy of the Wizard of Oz."

An updated fiscal note is pending.