

SESSION OF 2004

SUPPLEMENTAL NOTE ON SENATE BILL NO. 561

As Recommended by Senate Committee on
Natural Resources

Brief*

HB 561 would authorize the Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks (KDWP) to implement a pilot landowner deer management program. The bill would require that there be not more than five project locations for the program. Landowners who participate in the landowner deer management program would not be eligible to apply for and receive transferable nonresident deer permits. The bill would mandate that the deer permits authorized for the program be restricted to the property described in the individual plan and the number of permits would be established in an agreement with the landowner and KDWP using criteria developed by KDWP. The bill would clarify that the permits issued through the landowner deer management program would not be part of the nonresident deer permit allocation allowed under current law. The Secretary of KDWP would be authorized to adopt rules and regulations providing for the implementation and evaluation of the pilot program and issuance of permits within the landowner deer management program. These provisions would expire January 1, 2008.

Background

Conferees before the Senate Committee on Natural Resources included representatives of the KDWP and the Kansas Farm Bureau. The conferee from Kansas Farm Bureau reminded the Committee that during the 2003 Session, HB 2087 was passed. This bill authorized KDWP to undertake a study and prepare a report concerning the feasibility of this type of program. The report was submitted to the Committee at the beginning of the 2004 Session. Both conferees supported the bill. There were no opponents to the bill.

The fiscal note on the bill indicates the KDWP anticipates that there would be some additional costs associated with passage of 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>

bill, but states that the agency would absorb those costs within the existing budget.