

SESSION OF 2005

**CONFERENCE COMMITTEE REPORT BRIEF
HOUSE BILL NO. 2466**

As Agreed to March 29, 2005

Brief *

HB 2466, repeals the authority of the Department of Wildlife and Parks to issue commercial guide service permits. The bill would take effect January 1, 2006, and thereafter and upon its publication in the statute book. The bill exempts persons who apply for a special controlled shooting area hunting license from meeting the requirements for completion of hunter education course. The exemption expires on July 1, 2005. The bill deletes the sunset, thereby making the exemption permanent.

Conference Committee Action

The House conferees agreed to the Senate amendments.

Background

At the House Committee hearing, Christopher J. Tymeson, Chief Legal Counsel, Department of Wildlife and Parks, stated, among other things, that the oversight of guide service business is more of a consumer protection matter than one of wildlife management. He noted that complaints for failure to provide services or other consumer issues for services not requiring a guide permit are referred to the Attorney General's Office in the same manner as complaints against permitted guides. Other conferees who testified in support of the bill included: Keaton Kelso, Owner, K & K Outfitters, LLC; Ken Corbet, Ravenwood Hunters; and Wes Tral, livestock and forage producer, LLC; Keith Houghton, Ringneck, Inc., President of the Kansas Sports Hunting Association, presented written testimony in favor of the bill.

*Conference committee report briefs are prepared by the Legislative Research Department and do not express legislative intent. No summary is prepared when the report is an agreement to disagree. The conference committee summary report may be accessed on the Internet at <http://www.kslegislature.org>

No one testified against the bill.

The House Committee amendment to change the effective date of the act was suggested by the Chief Legal Counsel of the Department of Wildlife and Parks.

The Senate Committee amendment adds the provisions of SB 98 to HB 2466, which exempted persons from having a hunter education course if they apply for special controlled shooting area hunting license.

The fiscal note prepared by the Division of Budget indicates that the Department of Wildlife and Parks estimates that passage of HB 2466 would result in a decrease in revenue from permits to the Wildlife Fee Fund of \$108,000. The Department recognizes that passage of the bill would also result in a decrease in staff time spent processing applications, but is unable to estimate the amount of savings that would be realized. Any effect resulting from enactment of the bill is not accounted for in the *FY 2006 Governor's Budget Report*.