SESSION OF 2005

SUPPLEMENTAL NOTE ON SENATE BILL NO. 56

As Recommended by Senate Committee on Agriculture

Brief*

SB 56 would delete a provision in current law which requires that every retail pump for motor-vehicle fuels be conspicuously labeled to show the content and percent of any ethyl alcohol or other alcohol combined or alone in excess of one percent by volume.

Background

At the hearing on the bill, those appearing in support of the bill included the Secretary of Agriculture and representatives of the Kansas Department of Commerce, U.S. Energy Partners, American Coalition for Ethanol, United BioEnergy, Kansas Farm Bureau, and the Kansas Corn Growers/Kansas Grain Sorghum Producers Association. Written testimony in support of the bill was submitted by the Kansas Energy Council, the Kansas Agricultural Alliance, and the Kansas Cooperative Council. One conferee appeared as an opponent, representing Taylor Oil of Wellsville. Written testimony in opposition to the bill was received from Fleming Corporation of Pittsburg.

The Secretary of Agriculture explained that the bill would allow the Department of Agriculture to develop necessary rules and regulations to remove the current mandatory labeling requirement. He further explained that his agency regulates fuel quantity and quality in Kansas. He told the Committee that the removal of the label requirement in Kansas law does not conflict with any other state or federal law. The opponent to the bill indicated the removal of the label would make it more difficult for the consumer who wants to buy ethanol to find it and

^{*}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

that others may not wish to purchase motor fuel if it contains ethyl alcohol.

The fiscal note indicates that there would be no fiscal impact associated with the passage of the bill.