

SESSION OF 2006

SUPPLEMENTAL NOTE ON SENATE BILL NO. 372

As Amended by Senate Committee on
Transportation

Brief*

SB 372 would amend current law by eliminating the 108-inch width restriction that applies to appurtenances attached to motor homes and travel trailers. Instead, the bill would limit the maximum width of the appurtenances so that they may not extend beyond the rearview mirrors. The bill states that the mirrors may only extend the distance necessary to provide the required field of vision before the appurtenances are attached.

The bill, as introduced, would have only eliminated the 108-inch width restriction. However, the Committee amended the bill to limit the maximum width of the appurtenances so that they would not extend beyond the rearview mirrors.

Background

A representative of the Recreation Vehicle Industry Association (RVIA) appeared as a proponent of the bill. The RVIA noted that the bill would allow recreational vehicles with factory or dealer installed awnings on both sides of the vehicle to be in compliance with state law.

Representatives of the Department of Transportation (KDOT) and the Kansas Highway Patrol (KHP) appeared as opponents of the bill as introduced and as proponents of the bill as amended. Both agencies expressed concerns for public safety if any manufacturer could permanently affix an appurtenance on to the sides of motor homes and travel trailers without a limit on width. KDOT and KHP indicated that the bill as amended addressed their safety concerns.

At the time of the hearing, there was no fiscal note for SB 372.

*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>