

SESSION OF 2009

SUPPLEMENTAL NOTE ON SENATE BILL NO. 29

As Amended by House Committee on
Commerce and Labor

Brief*

SB 29, as amended, would amend statutes of the Board of Technical Professions.

The bill would expand the issuance of a certificate of authorization to any business entity which includes corporations, limited liability companies and partnerships, corporate partnerships or any other legal entities created by law. Current law only includes corporations as an entity for issuance of a certificate.

The bill would allow for the issuance by the Board of an intern certificate for geologists, engineers, and land surveyors.

The bill would clarify the definition of the practice of land surveying to include planning, mapping and locating or laying out of alignments, positions or elevations for the construction of engineering or architectural works.

The bill would alter to a two-year cycle for the issuance of renewal of a certificate of authorization for a business entity under the following conditions:

- The certificate of authorization is scheduled for renewal on or after December 31, 2010;
- The name of the business entity begins with a letter in the last half of the alphabet;

*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>

- The fee will be one-half of the new biennial renewal fee;
- Any certificate which has been renewed for a period of one year shall be renewed subsequently on a biennial basis; and
- No certificate shall be renewed for a period of one year on or after January 1, 2012.

The bill would allow the Board of Technical Professions to develop rules and regulations exempting persons from continuing education requirements for license renewal or reinstatement. In addition, the bill would allow the Board to use other disciplinary options that are less severe than suspension or revocation of a license of a business entity.

Background

Proponents who testified for the bill included George Barbee, Kansas Board of Technical Professions; Trudy Aron, American Institute of Architects; and Ron Gaches, Kansas Society of Professional Engineers.

Melissa Wangemann, Kansas Association of Counties, testified in opposition to part of the bill and asked for an amendment.

The Senate Committee amended the bill by clarifying the definition of the practice of land surveyors and authorizing cleanup language as requested by the Board of Technical Professions, and other conferees.

The House Committee on Commerce and Labor added clarifying language to include architectural work to the practice of land surveying. Another amendment changed the name of the business entity to begin with a letter in the last half of the alphabet. Additional changes were technical in nature.

The Division of Budget states that the Board of Technical Professions would issue 100 to 150 new certificates of authorization. The application fee would be \$170 and the biennial renewal fee would be \$120. The additional revenue would be \$17,000 to \$25,000 in FY 2011 and \$12,000 to \$18,000 at each subsequent renewal. Because of the one-time issuance of single-year certificates, there would be a revenue reduction in FY 2011 of approximately \$48,000. Passage of SB 29 would not require any changes to the Board's current staff. Any fiscal effect is not included in the *FY 2010 Governor's Budget Report*.