

SESSION OF 2010

SUPPLEMENTAL NOTE ON SENATE BILL NO. 491

As Amended by House Committee on
Health and Human Services

Brief*

SB 491 would delete a provision in current law concerning respiratory therapists who were registered rather than licensed on February 29, 2000, which is no longer applicable. The bill also would shorten the expiration period for temporary licenses issued to respiratory therapists from a period of one year to six months.

Background

The bill was introduced by the Committee on Public Health and Welfare at the request of the Kansas State Board of Healing Arts. A representative of the Board spoke in support of the bill and stated the intent of the bill is to extend the expiration date of the special permit issued to a respiratory therapy graduate from the date a student graduates from an approved school of respiratory therapy to 30 days after graduation. The Board representative indicated this would allow recent graduates to continue working until their application for a full license has been processed and issued.

There were no opponents of the bill.

The Senate Committee amended the bill to extend the expiration date of the special permit from the 30 days originally proposed in the bill to 90 days after graduation from an approved school of respiratory therapy. The additional extension of time from that originally proposed is intended to

*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>

allow the graduate sufficient time to complete the application process for full licensure.

The House Committee amended the bill to use a period of 30 days for the expiration date of the special permit rather than the 90 days proposed by the bill as amended by the Senate Committee. In addition, the House Committee amended the bill to shorten the expiration period for temporary licenses for respiratory therapists from one year to six months.

The fiscal note prepared by the Division of the Budget states that the original bill would have no fiscal impact on the Kansas State Board of Healing Arts or its licensees.