

SESSION OF 2026

SUPPLEMENTAL NOTE ON HOUSE BILL NO. 2543

As Amended by House Committee on
Appropriations

Brief*

HB 2543, as amended, would require the Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks (KDWP) to be reimbursed for lost revenue resulting from the issuance of any free or partially discounted hunting and fishing license, permit, or pass that was established through legislative enactment on or after July 1, 2027.

The bill would require KDWP to maintain an accounting of the lost revenue (accounting) and certify and submit the accounting to the State Treasurer and the Director of Accounts and Reports by June 30 of each fiscal year for reimbursement from the State General Fund (SGF). The accounting and any other related records would be subject to audit by the State Treasurer.

The bill would require, upon receipt of certification of the accounting, or as soon as moneys are available and subject to appropriation, the Director of Accounts and Reports to transfer an amount equal to the accounting from the SGF to the Wildlife Fee Fund.

The bill would require the KDWP to transmit a copy of the accounting to the Director of the Budget and the Director of Legislative Research each time it submits the certification to the Director of Accounts and Reports and State Treasurer.

*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 <https://klrd.gov/>

Background

The bill was introduced by Representative W. Carpenter.

House Committee on Appropriations

In the House Committee hearing, Representative W. Carpenter provided **proponent** testimony, who stated the bill is supported by the Sportsmen Caucus, because KDWP is fee-funded, issuing free or discounted licenses, permits, and passes costs KDWP money.

Written-only proponent testimony was provided by representatives of the Kansas Outdoor Heritage Alliance and the Great Plain States Congressional Sportsmen's Foundation.

Written-only **neutral** testimony was provided by the Secretary of Wildlife and Parks.

No other testimony was provided.

The House Committee amended the bill to delete language requiring reimbursement to KDWP for any exemption to a license, permit, or pass.

Fiscal Information

According to the fiscal note prepared by the Division of the Budget on the bill, as introduced, KDWP indicates enactment of the bill would increase revenue into its Wildlife Fee Fund starting in FY 2028; however, the agency cannot estimate a precise fiscal effect.

The State Treasurer indicates enactment of the bill could increase expenditures to conduct audits. The agency states that because KDWP would be required to certify the accounting, any audit performed should be able to be

handled within the agency's existing resources; however, the bill is not specific on the scope of the audits. If the State Treasurer is required to perform more extensive audits, then the agency could require additional positions or be required to contract for the audits. Therefore, the State Treasurer cannot estimate the fiscal effect of the bill.

The Department of Administration states enactment of the bill would have no fiscal effect.

Any fiscal effect associated with enactment of the bill is not reflected in *The FY 2027 Governor's Budget Report*.

Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks; hunting; fishing; licenses; permits