

SESSION OF 2026

SUPPLEMENTAL NOTE ON HOUSE BILL NO. 2568

As Amended by House Committee on Federal
and State Affairs

Brief*

HB 2568, as amended, would authorize the Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks (KDWP) to adopt the proposed permanent administrative rules and regulations concerning motor vehicle permits; camping, utility, and other fees; registrations; and other changes as identified and described in the economic impact statement submitted to the House Committee on Federal and State Affairs on February 11, 2026.

The bill would also authorize the Secretary of Wildlife and Parks (Secretary) to annually adjust certain motor vehicle and park-related fees, subject to certain caps, beginning in FY 2027 and issue statements and notice of such adjustments.

The bill would be in effect upon publication in the *Kansas Register*.

Secretary Authority for Annual Fee Adjustments

The bill would authorize the Secretary, beginning in FY 2027, to annually determine and declare increases or decreases to any existing motor vehicle fee or any camping, utility, or other fee established through the adoption of rules and regulations. The bill would provide any fee adjustment would be subject to approval by the Kansas Wildlife and Parks Commission (Commission).

*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/>

Annual Fee Adjustment Limitations

The bill would limit the authority of the Secretary to increase fees by providing that any increase could not exceed the amount established for the immediately preceding fiscal year plus an amount equal to the average percentage increase in the Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) for the Midwest region, as published by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics for the U.S. Department of Labor, for the three immediately preceding fiscal years.

Statement and Notice of Fee Adjustments

If the Secretary receives approval by the Commission to alter a fee, the Secretary would be required to prepare a written statement and notice of alteration of such fee. The statement would be required to specify the designated fee, the deciding factors, and the date on which the fee becomes effective. The bill would also require posting of the statement to KDWP's official website prior to the effective date of the new fee.

Background

The bill was introduced by the House Committee on Federal and State Affairs at the request of Representative W. Carpenter on behalf of the Commission.

House Committee on Federal and State Affairs

In the House Committee hearing, **proponent** testimony was provided by Representative W. Carpenter and representatives from the Kansas Chamber of Commerce and KDWP, who stated the bill would ratify changes to the park fee regulations, which will allow Kansas State Parks to continue providing safe, well-maintained, and high-quality outdoor recreation opportunities while being fair to park users, taxpayers, and private businesses.

Written-only proponent testimony was provided by two representatives of KDWP.

No other testimony was provided.

The House Committee amended the bill to:

- Change the reference to the proposed rules and regulations for which the KDWP is seeking authorization to the economic impact statement submitted to the House Committee on Federal and State Affairs on February 11, 2026;
- Authorize the Secretary to annually adjust motor vehicle and park-related fees set by rules and regulations;
- Limit fee increases to not exceed the prior year's amount plus the average CPI-U in the Midwest region over the previous three fiscal years; and
- Require the Secretary to issue a statement and notice detailing the fee adjustment, reasons for such adjustment, and effective dates, and put such statement and notice on KDWP's official website.

Fiscal Information

According to the fiscal note prepared by the Division of the Budget on the bill, as introduced, KDWP states that the passage of the bill would not change the revenues of the agency, as further action is required to increase fees. If the bill is enacted, the Commission could then establish the new fees and vote to approve the increases. Then, KDWP would complete the rules and regulation process. Once the entire process is complete, the agency's revenues are estimated to increase by \$4.6 million annually into the Parks Fee Fund. The agency is unsure of the timing of when the increases would go into effect. The agency used a five-year average of the fees and permits to estimate the total increase. Any fiscal

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

Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks; rules and regulations; fees; economic impact statement; Kansas Wildlife and Parks Commission