

SESSION OF 2012

SUPPLEMENTAL NOTE ON HOUSE BILL NO. 2096

As Amended by House Committee on Vision
2020

Brief*

HB 2096 would amend Kansas law relating to water supply storage and conservation.

The bill would allow the Executive Director of the Division of Conservation of the Department of Agriculture to fund any grant for bank stabilization for any amount up to 100 percent, which, in the Executive Director's opinion, would reduce the sediment load. The bill also would eliminate the requirement that a contractual agreement be made by a user prior to additional federal reservoir water storage being brought into service.

The bill would remove the requirement that flood control be included in the development of multipurpose small lake programs in which the state cooperates, allowing multipurpose lakes to be developed for any two of three purposes: flood control, water supply storage, or recreational use.

The bill changes the time window in the definition of "Future use public water supply storage" from 20 years to 50 years, and makes the 50 year window the standard time frame under which water supply is analyzed.

The bill would allow the Kansas Water Office to collect and integrate water quality and quantity data between agencies. The bill also would make water supply storage a water reservation right rather than a water appropriation right.

*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>

Finally, the bill would change the references to the State Conservation Commission to the Division of Conservation of the Department of Agriculture to make those sections consistent with the changes made by Executive Reorganization Order 40, (approved during the 2011 session), which transferred the State Conservation Commission to the Department of Agriculture.

Background

Representatives from the Kansas Water Office and the Division of Conservation of the Kansas Department of Agriculture appeared in support of the bill.

The Committee on Vision 2020 amended the bill to change references to the State Conservation Commission to the Division of Conservation of the Department of Agriculture. The Committee also amended the bill to change the time frame of consideration for water supply decisions from 20 years to 50 years.

The Committee also eliminated portions of the bill that would have required the Kansas Biological Survey to perform certain studies and would have required the creation and maintenance of a central repository system. In response to legislator questions, it was reported that, by removing these sections, the fiscal note was reduced by approximately \$442,000. The Committee amendments also retitled the bill.

According to the fiscal note prepared by the Division of Budget on the bill as introduced, the fiscal impact was \$442,000.

JH/mkh