

SESSION OF 2011

SUPPLEMENTAL NOTE ON SENATE BILL NO. 214

As Amended by Senate Committee on
Natural Resources

Brief*

SB 214, as amended, would change the existing definition of “person” for the purposes of the Groundwater Management District Act to mean any natural person, public or private corporation, municipality, or any other legal commercial entity.

The existing definition of “person” does not include the term “or any other legal commercial entity.”

In addition, the bill would make other technical corrections to the language of KSA 2010 Supp. 82a-1021.

Background

SB 214 was introduced by the Senate Committee on Ways and Means at the request of Senator Ruth Teichman.

Senator Teichman stated that the idea for the bill was brought to her by Groundwater Management District (GMD) No. 5. The purpose of the bill is to clarify the definition of “person” to ensure that all land and water right owner entities within the boundaries of a GMD may be recognized as a voting member and participate in the activities of the GMD.

An official representing the five Kansas GMDs provided written testimony in support of the bill. In addition, the Kansas GMDs recommended an amendment to the language

*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>

of the bill that would strike “an individual, corporation, business trust, estate, trust, partnership, limited liability company, association, joint venture, government; governmental subdivision, agency or instrumentality; public corporation” and insert “any natural person, public or private corporation, municipality” in its place.

The Senate Committee on Natural Resources amended SB 214 to include the amendment proposed by the Kansas GMDs.

The fiscal note prepared by the Division of the Budget on the original version of SB 214 indicates the bill would have no fiscal effect for the Kansas Department of Agriculture or the Kansas Association of Counties.