

SESSION OF 2014

SUPPLEMENTAL NOTE ON SENATE BILL NO. 349

As Amended by House Committee of the Whole

Brief*

SB 349 would amend existing statutory requirements for the chief boiler inspector and deputy boiler inspectors.

Under the provisions of the bill, the chief boiler inspector would be required to:

- Have not less than five years of experience in the construction, installation, repair, operation, or inspection of boilers, steam generators, super-heaters, or pressure vessels; and
- Hold a commission issued by the National Board of Boiler and Pressure Vessel Inspectors, and have all of the following:
 - An in-service commission;
 - An “A” endorsement; and
 - A “B” endorsement or obtain a “B” endorsement within 18 months after appointment.

Deputy boiler inspectors would be required to:

- Have completed courses and training, and have experience in the construction, installation, repair, operation, or inspection of boilers, steam generators, super-heaters, or pressure vessels, which in the aggregate amounts to not less than

*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>

two years of education, training, and work experience; or

- Have not less than five years experience in the heating, ventilation, air conditioning, or plumbing fields related to the installation or repair of boilers or pressure vessels; and
- Hold an in-service commission issued by the National Board of Boiler and Pressure vessel inspectors or obtain such commission within 12 months after appointment.

Background

The bill was requested by the State Fire Marshal, who assumed responsibility for administering the state's Boiler Inspection Program in 2013. The State Fire Marshal testified in support of the bill, indicating that training for these positions would be available at no cost through the National Board of Boiler and Pressure Vessel Inspectors and that the statutory qualifications have made filling vacant positions and hiring staff difficult. The State Fire Marshal indicated the bill would allow the Boiler Inspection Program to improve its performance and complete required annual inspections in a more timely manner once vacant positions are filled.

No one else testified on the bill.

At the hearing in the House Committee, the State Fire Marshal testified in support of the bill. There was no neutral testimony or testimony in opposition to the bill.

The House Committee of the Whole amended the bill by adding language setting educational, professional, and work experience requirements for the chief boiler inspector and deputy boiler inspectors. The requirements added by the House Committee of the Whole are different than the requirements found in existing law. The bill, as introduced,

would have stricken all statutory requirements for those positions.

The fiscal note on the original bill indicated there would be no fiscal effect to agency operations since the boiler inspector training is available at no cost.