

SESSION OF 2013

SUPPLEMENTAL NOTE ON SENATE BILL NO. 34

As Amended by Senate Committee on Federal
and State Affairs

Brief*

SB 34, as amended, would change the membership composition of the Commission on Emergency Planning and Response.

The bill would replace a representative from the Division of Animal Health, Kansas Department of Agriculture, with a representative from the Division of Environment, Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE). (The Department of Agriculture would continue to have a representative on the Commission.) The bill would clarify that a second representative from KDHE would be from the Division of Public Health. Additionally, the existing language describing the Commission member selected to "represent the tribes of Kansas" would be changed to an individual selected to "act as a representative or liaison of any federally recognized tribe residing in the state."

The bill also would create two-year terms for the Chairperson and Vice-chairperson of the Commission. Upon the expiration of the two-year term, the Vice-chairperson would become Chairperson with a new Vice-chairperson being elected by the members of the Commission. Under current law, the Chairperson is elected annually and the Vice-chairperson is selected by the Chairperson.

*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>

Background

Testimony in support of the bill was provided by representatives of the Division of Emergency Management, Adjutant General's Department; the Kansas Department of Agriculture; and the Kansas State Firefighters Association. There was no testimony provided in opposition to the bill.

The Senate Committee on Federal and State Affairs amended the bill with the language referring to a "liaison" representing a tribe in the state to supplement the original language.

The fiscal note provided by the Division of the Budget on the bill, as introduced, indicates the bill would save staff time within the Department of Agriculture and have no fiscal effect on the Department of Health and Environment.