

SESSION OF 2013

SUPPLEMENTAL NOTE ON SENATE BILL NO. 56

As Amended by Senate Committee on
Agriculture

Brief*

SB 56, as amended, would transfer the ability to recognize county fairs from the Secretary of Agriculture to the board of county commissioners in the county where the fair will take place. The bill would allow county fairs that received recognition from the Secretary of Agriculture prior to July 1, 2013, to remain recognized as an official county fair, unless such recognition is revoked by the board of county commissioners in the county where the county fair is to be located. The bill also would make technical changes to correct references to existing Kansas statutes.

Background

SB 56 was introduced by the Senate Committee on Agriculture at the request of the Kansas Department of Agriculture (KDA).

At the Senate Committee hearing, proponents included representatives from the KDA and the Kansas Association of Counties. The KDA representative testified in 1994 the duty to officially recognize county fairs was not transferred from the Kansas State Board of Agriculture to the KDA. The representative testified that since the KDA does not maintain a list of officially recognized county fairs, the statute should be updated to place recognition of county fairs at the county level. The Kansas Association of Counties representative stated the Association's members approved the changes made by the bill.

*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>

The Senate Committee amended the bill by including a new section allowing county fairs that received recognition from the Secretary of Agriculture prior to July 1, 2013, to retain that recognition unless specifically revoked by the board of county commissioners. The Committee also amended the bill with regard to the payment of premiums and rewards, for county fairs that have been officially recognized as the official county fair by the board of county commissioners or the Secretary of Agriculture (prior to July 1, 2013). In addition, the Committee approved technical amendments to the bill.

The Division of the Budget fiscal note on the original bill indicated any fiscal effect on the KDA would be negligible. The fiscal note indicates the Kansas Association of Counties states the bill would result in some administrative costs for the counties, but any fiscal effect would be negligible.