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MEMORANDUM

To: Chairman Olson and Members of the Senate Committee on Utilities
From: Matt Sterling, Assistant Revisor of Statutes
Date: 02/15/2016
RE: Senate Bill 412

SB 412 would amend K.S.A. 19-3521b concerning Water District number 1 in Johnson County, Kansas. Under current law, the secretary of state is required to grant this district an easement on a tract of land along the Kansas River that is owned by the state. The county is authorized to use the easement to locate, construct, maintain, and operate diversion works for the appropriation of water. The water district is required to take full responsibility for the use of the easement and any costs that arise from the easement.

SB 412 would authorize the water district to also use the easement for hydropower generation equipment and facilities for the production of electricity.