

SESSION OF 2016

SUPPLEMENTAL NOTE ON HOUSE BILL NO. 2516

As Amended by House Committee on Energy
and Environment

Brief*

HB 2516 would eliminate requirements for Kansas-specific training and certification of individuals who perform asbestos abatement work. The bill instead would require these individuals to meet federal training requirements, which are identical to current state requirements. The time period for which companies licensed under the Asbestos Control Act are required to keep records of employee training would be reduced from six years to three years to be consistent with the document retention policies of other Kansas air programs.

The bill would remove the requirement for the Secretary of Health and Environment to establish a schedule of fees for certification by rules and regulations.

The bill would retain training, licensing, and certification fees in the State General Fund.

Background

The bill was requested for introduction by the Department of Health and Environment. The Director of the Division of Environment testified in support of the bill at the House Committee on Energy and Environment hearing, noting the bill would remove redundant requirements on asbestos abatement workers and eliminate annual fees those individuals pay for state certification. He emphasized the bill would not change the training individuals must receive.

*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>

Westar Energy provided written testimony in support of the bill.

A representative of the Kansas AFL-CIO testified in opposition to the bill during the hearing but subsequently withdrew opposition. No neutral testimony was received.

The House Committee amended the bill to retain in the State General Fund training, licensing, and certification fees the bill as introduced would have transferred to the Air Quality Fee Fund.

The fiscal note prepared by the Division of the Budget on the bill, as introduced, indicates enactment of the bill would reduce State General Fund expenditures by \$85,000 by eliminating the Kansas-specific training, licensing, and certification program. As introduced, the bill also would have reduced revenue to the State General Fund by \$130,000 by transferring that amount to the Air Quality Fee Fund instead. Any fiscal effect associated with the bill is not reflected in *The FY 2017 Governor's Budget Report*.