

SESSION OF 2018

SUPPLEMENTAL NOTE ON SENATE BILL NO. 301

As Amended by Senate Committee on
Agriculture and Natural Resources

Brief*

SB 301, as amended, would require any person who provides guide or outfitter services to annually register with the Kansas Department of Wildlife, Parks and Tourism (KDWPT). The annual registration would be \$100 and KDWPT would be required to issue a unique registration number to each guide and/or outfitter registered. The KDWPT would be required to maintain a list of registered guides and outfitters on its website.

The bill would establish definitions for the terms “guide” and “outfitter,” both of which would involve services for monetary compensation.

Further, the bill would create the Conservation Officer Fund (Fund) to be administered by the Secretary of the KDWPT. Moneys from the guide and outfitter registration fee would be deposited into the newly created Fund. Moneys in the Fund would be used for the maintenance of the guide and outfitter list and for compensation, training, and equipment of conservation officers.

The provisions of the bill would not apply to landowners providing guide or outfitter services exclusively on land owned by the landowner or on land owned, leased, or operated as a controlled shooting area.

*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

This bill was introduced by the Senate Committee on Agriculture and Natural Resources at the request of Senator McGinn. In the Senate Committee hearing on February 8, Senator McGinn, Senator Kerschen, and a representative of the Outfitters Association testified as proponents. A representative of the Kansas Farm Bureau submitted written-only proponent testimony.

Representative Corbet testified as an opponent. Representatives of the C Diamond Outfitter submitted written-only opponent testimony.

The Secretary of the Department of Wildlife, Parks and Tourism testified as a neutral conferee. No other testimony was provided.

The Senate Committee amended the bill to exclude from the registration requirements activity conducted on controlled shooting areas pursuant to KSA 32-943.

The Senate Committee also amended the bill to make the penalty for persons providing guide or outfitter services and failing to register as a guide or outfitter a Class C misdemeanor with a fine of up to \$500 rather than a fine of \$1,000. The Senate Committee also clarified the definition of the term "guide" to include "offers" guide services as well as "provides" guide services.

According to the fiscal note prepared by the Division of the Budget on the bill, as introduced, the KDWPT indicates the bill would create increased revenue as the Department collects registration fees from guides, but the total fiscal effect cannot yet be determined.