

SESSION OF 2018

SUPPLEMENTAL NOTE ON SENATE BILL NO. 320

As Recommended by Senate Committee on
Agriculture and Natural Resources

Brief*

SB 320 would allow Kansas State University to expand its veterinary training program for rural veterinarians. The bill would increase the current program maximum of 5 veterinary students to 20 veterinary students and create a minimum number of 5 students with whom the College of Veterinary Medicine has entered into program agreements. The program would remain subject to legislative appropriations. The program requirements and provisions would remain the same.

Background

The bill was introduced by the Senate Committee on Agriculture and Natural Resources.

At the hearing on the bill before the Senate Committee, representatives of the Kansas Department of Agriculture, the Kansas Livestock Association, and a private citizen testified as proponents of the bill. A representative of the Kansas Farm Bureau submitted written-only proponent testimony. The proponents expressed increasing needs for rural veterinarians, particularly those focusing on large animal or mixed animal practices, and the need to provide veterinary students opportunities to practice in rural areas.

No opponent or neutral testimony was provided.

*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 fiscal note prepared by the Division of the Budget indicated the bill would have a fiscal effect if Kansas State University funded additional veterinary students as program participants. To fund 20 veterinary students, the University would require an additional \$1.6 million from the State General Fund beginning in FY 2019. The University would require a total of \$2.0 million from the State General Fund for 20 veterinary students over 4 years.