

SESSION OF 2012

SUPPLEMENTAL NOTE ON HOUSE BILL NO. 2503

As Amended by Senate Committee on
Agriculture

Brief*

HB 2503 would make amendments to several boards and advisory bodies relating to agriculture.

Specifically, the bill would modify current law with respect to the Kansas Agricultural Remediation Board to remove the requirement that members be subject to Senate confirmation.

Other amendments to the bill would modify the statutes relating to the Grape and Wine Industry Advisory Council and provide that there be no less than nine members. In addition, the Secretary of Agriculture, the Secretary of Wildlife, Parks and Tourism, and the Director of the State Alcoholic Beverage Control Division would be *ex officio* members on the Advisory Council. Further, the bill would require the Kansas Department of Agriculture to provide administrative assistance to the Advisory Council until the Secretary of Agriculture determines the Council has the resources to provide its own staffing. Under new provisions in the bill, both of the provisions relating to the Advisory Council would expire on July 1, 2016.

The bill also would rename the current Agriculture Products Development Advisory Board, as the Agriculture Marketing and Promotions Advisory Board. Members would be appointed by the Secretary of Agriculture rather than by the Governor. The Board would consist of not less than nine members and no more than 12 members who would

*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>

represent various agricultural sectors outlined in the bill. The Board would elect its own chairperson, vice-chairperson, and any other officers.

Finally, the bill would repeal the Dairy Marketing Advisory Board, which had as its main duty the study and evaluation of the need for establishing a statewide milk marketing order.

Background

This bill was introduced at the request of a spokesperson for the Kansas Department of Agriculture.

At the House Committee hearing on the bill, proponents included a representative of the Kansas Department of Agriculture; the Kansas Grain and Feed Association and the Kansas Agribusiness Retailer's Association; and the Kansas Cooperative Council. Written testimony in favor of the bill was provided by the Kansas Viticulture and Farm Winery Association. This testimony indicated concern with the sunset clause. A conferee representing the Kansas Livestock Association and the Kansas Dairy Association suggested the Committee consider the deletion of the Dairy Marketing Advisory Board.

The House Committee on Agriculture and Natural Resources amended the bill by adding language in the provision relating to assistance to the Grape and Wine Industry Advisory Council to allow the Secretary of Agriculture to determine when the Advisory Council has the appropriate resources to provide its own staffing. In addition, the Committee deleted the section of law contained in the bill which established the Dairy Marketing Advisory Board.

The Senate Committee on Agriculture amended the bill to include technical changes to the bill's title and repealer sections.

The fiscal note provided by the Division of the Budget indicates that passage of the bill in its original form would have no fiscal effect on state operations. An updated version of the fiscal note including the House and Senate Committee amendments was not immediately available.