

SESSION OF 2013

SUPPLEMENTAL NOTE ON HOUSE BILL NO. 2137

As Amended by House Committee on
Transportation and Public Safety Budget

Brief*

HB 2137 would amend the statute that created the \$4 surcharge on vehicle registrations in 2008. The bill would rename the surcharge from the modernization fee surcharge to the T-works surcharge. In addition, the bill would also sunset the surcharge on January 1, 2021, which is six months after the estimated date of completion for T-works.

Under current law, the \$4 surcharge is collected upon each vehicle registration and remitted to the State Treasurer who credits the \$4 fee to the State Highway Fund for the purpose of funding T-works. The Department of Transportation began receiving the \$4 surcharge on January 1, 2013.

Background

At the House Committee hearing on the bill, only one proponent spoke in favor of the original bill. The proponent was Representative Virgil Peck. Three conferees appeared as opponents including the Director of the Division of Fiscal and Asset Management for the Kansas Department of Transportation and representatives of the American Council of Engineering of Engineering Companies and Kansas Economic Lifelines. Written testimony was provided by the Kansas Society of Professional Engineers, the Overland Park Chamber of Commerce, Kansas Good Roads, Inc., and Kansas Contractors Association. The written testimony was in opposition to the bill.

*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 House Committee on Transportation and Public Safety Budget amended the bill to rename the surcharge from the modernization fee surcharge to the T-works surcharge and added a sunset date of January 1, 2021, for the \$4 surcharge. The original bill would have eliminated the \$4 surcharge completely.

A fiscal note on the original bill indicated the legislation would decrease revenues to the State Highway Fund by \$12.4 million in FY 2014 and each subsequent year. An updated fiscal noted is not available for the amended bill.