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Session of 2003

As Amended by Senate Committee

SENATE BILL No. 25

By Senator Emler

1-16

AN ACT concerning sport shooting ranges; relating to the regulation thereof; amending K.S.A. 2002 Supp. 58-3222, 58-3223 and 58-3224 and repealing the existing sections.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Kansas:

Section 1. K.S.A. 2002 Supp. 58-3222 is hereby amended to read as follows: 58-3222. (a) Notwithstanding any other provisions of law, and in addition to other protections provided in this act, A person who owns, operates, manages or uses a sport shooting range that conforms to generally accepted operation practices in the state is not subject to civil liability or criminal prosecution in any matter relating to noise or noise pollution resulting from the operation or use of the range if the range is in compliance with any noise control laws or ordinances or resolutions that applied to the range and its operation at the time of construction and initial operation of the range.

- (b) In addition to any civil protection provided by the act, A person who owns, operates, manages or uses a sport shooting range that conforms to generally accepted operation practices is not subject to an action for nuisance, and a court of the state shall not enjoin or restrain the use or operation of a range on the basis of noise or noise pollution, if the range is in compliance with any noise control laws or ordinances or resolutions that applied to the range and its operation at the time of construction or initial operation of the range.
- (c) Rules or regulations adopted by any state department or agency for limiting levels of noise in terms of decibel level which may occur in the outdoor atmosphere do not apply to a sport shooting range immune from liability under this act. However, This subsection does not constrict shall not be construed to restrict the application of any provision of generally accepted operation practices.
- (d) A person who acquires title to real property adversely affected by the use of property with a permanently located and improved sport shooting range constructed and initially operated prior to the time the person

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acquires title shall not maintain a nuisance action on the basis of noise or noise pollution or based upon known or inherent dangers against the person who owns, operates or uses the range to restrain, enjoin, or impede the use of the range. This section does not prohibit actions for negligence or recklessness in the operation of the range.

- Sec. 2. K.S.A. 2002 Supp. 58-3223 is hereby amended to read as follows: 58-3223. (a) A sport shooting range that is *constructed and* operated and is not in violation of in *compliance with* state law at the time of the enactment of an ordinance or resolution shall be permitted to continue in operation even if the *construction and* operation of the sport shooting range at a later date does not conform to the new ordinance or resolution or amendment to an existing ordinance or resolution does not comply with an ordinance or resolution which is enacted or amended after the date on which construction or operation of the range commenced.
- (b) If a sport shooting range that is was in existence as of the effective date of this act and operates and operating on July 1, 2001, and if such range is in compliance with generally accepted operation practices, even if not in compliance with an and was in compliance with any ordinance or resolution of a local unit of government, in effect at the time of construction or initial operation of the range, such range shall be permitted to do all of the following within its preexisting geographic boundaries if in compliance with generally accepted operation practices:
- (1) Repair, remodel or reinforce any improvement or facilities or building or structure as may be necessary in the interest of public safety or to secure the continued use of the building or improvement;
- (2) reconstruct, repair, rebuild or resume the use of a facility or building damaged by fire, collapse, explosion, act of God or act of war occurring after the effective date of this act. The reconstruction, repair or restoration shall be completed within one year following the date of the damage or settlement of any property damage claim. If reconstruction, repair or restoration is not completed within one year as provided in this subsection, such reconstruction, repair or restoration may be terminated in the discretion of the local unit of government; or
- (3) do anything authorized under generally accepted operation practices, including, but not limited to:
- (A) Expand or enhance its membership or opportunities for public participation; and
 - (B) reasonably expand or increase facilities or activities.
- Sec. 3. K.S.A. 2002 Supp. 58-3224 is hereby amended to read as follows: 58-3224. (a) Except as otherwise provided, the provisions of this act shall not prohibit a local unit of government from regulating the location and construction of a sport shooting range.
 - (b) No person or governmental entity may take title to property which

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has a permanently located and improved sport shooting range, by condemnation, eminent domain or similar process when the proposed use of said the property would be for shooting related activities or recreational activities or for private or commercial development. However, this provision does not limit governmental exercise of eminent domain or easement necessary for infrastructure additions or improvements, such as highways, waterways or utilities.

(c) The governing body of any local unit of government may enact and enforce an ordinance or resolution which provides for the gradual elimination of sport shooting ranges which constitute nonconforming uses elimination of a sport shooting range which does not comply with the provisions of section 2, and amendments thereto. If a sport shooting range is closed or eliminated pursuant to this subsection, the owner of such range shall be paid compensation for the value of the real estate on which the range is located, any improvements located on such range and for any economic loss resulting from the closing or elimination thereof.

- Sec. 4. K.S.A. 2002 Supp. 58-3222, 58-3223 and 58-3224 are hereby repealed.
- Sec. 5. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its publication in the Kansas register.