HOUSE BILL No. 2178

By Committee on Appropriations

1-30

AN ACT abolishing the Kansas turnpike authority; transferring powers, duties and functions to the Kansas department of transportation.

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

Section 1. On January 1, 2010, the Kansas turnpike authority created by K.S.A. 68-2003, and amendments thereto, shall be and is hereby abolished, and on such date, all powers, duties and functions of the Kansas turnpike authority are hereby transferred to and conferred and imposed upon the department of transportation and the secretary of transportation.

- Sec. 2. The department of transportation and secretary of transportation shall be the successors in every way, respectively, to the powers, duties and functions of the Kansas turnpike authority. Every act performed in the exercise of such powers, duties and functions by or under the authority of the department of transportation or secretary of transportation, respectively, shall be deemed to have the same force and effect as if performed by the Kansas turnpike authority. The department and secretary of transportation shall be continuations of the Kansas turnpike authority.
- Sec. 3. (a) All rules and regulations, all orders, directives and resolutions of the Kansas turnpike authority which are in existence on the effective date of this act, shall continue to be effective and shall be deemed to be the duly adopted rules and regulations, orders, directives and resolutions of the secretary of transportation, until revised, amended, revoked or nullified according to law.
- (b) The secretary of transportation is hereby authorized to adopt, amend or repeal rules and regulations as necessary to administer or implement any statutory provision under the department's jurisdiction. Such rules and regulations shall be promulgated in accordance with the rules and regulations filing act, K.S.A. 77-415 et seq., and amendments thereto. Such rules and regulations shall not be inconsistent with or exceed the authority granted to the secretary under the statutory provision to be administered or implemented.
- Sec. 4. Whenever the Kansas turnpike authority, or words of like effect, is referred to or designated by a statute, contract or other docu-

ment, such reference or designation shall be deemed to apply to the department of transportation.

- Sec. 5. (a) When any conflict arises as to the disposition of any property, power, duty or function as a result of any abolition or transfer made by or under the authority of this act, such conflict shall be resolved by the governor, whose decision shall be final.
- (b) The department of transportation shall succeed to all property, property rights and records which were used for or pertain to the performance of powers, duties and functions transferred to the department of transportation. Any conflict as to the proper disposition of property, personnel or records arising under this act shall be determined by the governor, whose decision shall be final.
- Sec. 6. (a) No suit, action or other proceeding, judicial or administrative, lawfully commenced, or which could have been commenced, by or against any state agency mentioned in this act, or by or against any officer of the state in such officer's official capacity or in relation to the discharge of such officer's official duties, shall abate by reason of the governmental reorganization effected under the provisions of this act. The court may allow any such suit, action or other proceeding to be maintained by or against the successor of any such state agency or any officer affected.
- (b) No criminal action commenced or which could have been commenced by the state shall abate by the taking effect of this act.
- Sec. 7. (a) All officers and employees of the Kansas turnpike authority who, immediately prior to the effective date of this act, are engaged in the exercise and performance of the powers, duties and functions transferred by this act who are determined by the secretary of transportation to be engaged in providing administrative, technical or other support services that are essential to the exercise and performance of the powers, duties and functions transferred by this act, are hereby transferred to the department of transportation.
- (b) Officers and employees of the Kansas turnpike authority transferred by this act shall retain all retirement benefits and leave balances and rights which had accrued or vested prior to the date of transfer. The service of each such officer and employee so transferred shall be deemed to have been continuous. Any subsequent transfers, layoffs or abolition of positions shall be made in accordance with the civil service laws and any rules and regulations adopted thereunder. All such officers and employees transferred shall be in the unclassified service under the Kansas civil service act.
- Sec. 8. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after, January 1, 2010, and its publication in the statute book.