

SESSION OF 2002

**SUPPLEMENTAL NOTE ON
SUBSTITUTE FOR SENATE BILL NO. 556**

As Recommended by Senate Committee on
Agriculture

Brief*

Sub. for SB 556 would require the Secretary of Agriculture, in cooperation with the Secretary of Wildlife and Parks (KDWP), to designate a parcel of land as a research area to study and demonstrate methods of controlling or eradicating sericea lespedeza. The parcel would be designated on land managed by the KDWP at Toronto Lake. The two secretaries would have the authority to request assistance from any federal, state, or local authority; any public or private university or other research institution; any business organization; or any individual. The provisions of the bill would sunset on June 30, 2007.

Background

At the hearing on the bill support was expressed for the substitute bill by the Secretary of Agriculture, a spokesperson from the Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks, the Assistant to the President of Kansas State University, and a representative of the Kansas Livestock Association. There were no opponents to the bill.

The fiscal note on the original bill states that Department of Wildlife and Parks cannot accurately estimate the fiscal effect of the bill, because the size of the project and therefore the extent of the work are not known. The note indicates that the Department is currently engaged in a number of sericea lespedeza control and eradication projects, including projects at Toronto State Park. Therefore, it is possible that the existing resources could be sufficient to absorb the costs of a relatively small project. However, the note states that a

*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.accesskansas.org/legislature/>

project of larger scope would probably require additional resources. Any cost to the Department of Agriculture would depend on the extent to which the Department of Wildlife and Parks needs assistance. The Department of Agriculture has no information upon which to base an accurate estimate of this effect.