

SESSION OF 2003

SUPPLEMENTAL NOTE ON HOUSE BILL NO. 2448

As Recommended by House Committee on
Utilities

Brief*

The bill would amend a statute that prohibits underground porosity storage of hydrocarbons (e.g., natural gas or propane) in certain rock formations that contain water with relatively low salt concentrations. Under the bill, such storage could be continued if the porosity storage facility was in use prior to July 1, 2002.

Background

Existing law prohibits any hydrocarbon storage in an underground formation if water in that formation contains less than 5,000 milligrams chlorides per liter. Other provisions of existing law provide for regulation of porosity storage of hydrocarbons. The law was enacted in 2001 after the natural gas explosions in Hutchinson.

The bill was requested for introduction by a pipeline company that recently purchased existing porosity storage facilities in Kansas. A representative of the company testified in support of the bill at the House Utilities Committee's hearing. A representative of the Kansas Corporation Commission also spoke in support of the bill. No opponents to the bill presented testimony to the House Committee.

The Division of the Budget's fiscal note for the bill was not available at the time the House Committee took action on 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/klrd>