

SESSION OF 2006

SUPPLEMENTAL NOTE ON HOUSE BILL NO. 2716

As Amended by House Committee on
Environment

Brief*

HB 2716 would authorize Water District No. 1 of Johnson County, Kansas to acquire an easement on property owned by the State of Kansas along the Kansas River in order to construct water diversion works. The bill outlines the property to which the easement would apply. In addition, the bill would provide that any costs to the state in order to accomplish the easement would be born by Water District No. 1 of Johnson County.

Background

The primary sponsor of this bill indicated that Water District No. 1 of Johnson relies on the Kansas River for approximately one third of its raw water supply and that the current rock jetty was breached in 2004 causing the loss of the use of the Kansas River water as a water supply source. The other conferee who also was a proponent represented Water District No. 1. This conferee demonstrated what had happened to the old jetty and provided illustrations of the new weir to be constructed.

The House Committee on Environment amended the bill to correct the legal description of the state's property on which the easement would be granted. In addition, the Committee amended the bill so that any cost to the state in the granting of the easement would be paid for by Water District No. 1.

The fiscal note on the original bill indicates that the Secretary of State's Office would be required to hire an attorney to review the legal description and prepare and file the easement at a cost of between \$5,000 and \$10,000. The bill would not have a fiscal effect on the Kansas Water Office. The localities where the easement is to be

*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>

located may have a fiscal effect related to changes that need to be made in existing regulations or documents and for the construction costs of any diversion projects. Any fiscal effect resulting from the passage of this bill would be in addition to amounts recommended in *The FY 2007 Governor's Budget Report*. The Committee's amendment to the bill was intended to provide that the cost of the bill be borne by Water District No. 1.