SESSION OF 2008

SUPPLEMENTAL NOTE ON SENATE BILL NO. 509

As Amended by Senate Committee on Transportation

Brief*

SB 509 would amend state law to allow the Kansas Corporation Commission (KCC) to dispose of vehicles impounded from motor carriers and later abandoned by those carriers. The bill further would require the KCC to follow the requirements of KSA 8-1102 for notice to vehicle owners and lien holders before disposing of an impounded vehicle, and it would direct the KCC to deposit net proceeds into the State General Fund.

Background

Current law (KSA 66-1,129a) allows the KCC to request the Kansas Highway Patrol impound motor carrier vehicles when the motor carrier has failed to comply with out-of-service or cease-or-desist orders, has failed to obtain Commission authority to operate, has failed to pay a Commission-imposed civil penalty, or otherwise has failed to comply with a Commission order. However, the law is silent as to how the KCC may dispose of an impounded vehicle if the owner fails to pay fines or otherwise come into compliance in a timely manner. Current law (KSA 8-1102) also requires that net proceeds of the sale of an impounded vehicle go toward construction or maintenance of highways.

The KCC requested the bill, and a KCC representative testified in support of the bill. The representative said the KCC rarely impounds vehicles, but a recent impoundment left the

^{*}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

KCC in physical possession of a vehicle with no legal way to dispose of it. There was no testimony in opposition to the bill.

No fiscal note was available when the Senate Transportation Committee took action on the bill. However, the KCC representative indicated that the bill would have a negligible fiscal impact on the agency.