SESSION OF 2013

SUPPLEMENTAL NOTE ON HOUSE BILL NO. 2052

As Amended by House Committee on Federal and State Affairs

Brief*

HB 2052, as amended, would establish a uniform state law addressing unlawful discharge of a firearm within or into any city. The bill would define the unlawful discharge of a firearm as the reckless discharge of any firearm within or into the corporate limits of a city. A violation of this provision would be a class B nonperson misdemeanor.

The bill also would provide for circumstances in which a firearm may be discharged into or within any city without being considered unlawful and such circumstances are enumerated:

- Lawful defense of a person or property;
- Shooting at a supervised or private range;
- Lawful taking of wildlife, including nuisance wildlife, unless prohibited by the Department of Wildlife, Parks and Tourism and the governing body of the city;
- By law enforcement or animal control officers in the line of duty;
- With a special permit issued by the chief of police;
- Using blanks; and
- In defense against an animal attack.

^{*}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

Background

Proponents included Representative Jim Howell, representatives of the Kansas State Rifle Association and the Kansas Association of Chiefs of Police, and two private citizens.

No opponents testified on the bill.

The House Committee amended the bill to clarify provisions regarding the taking of wildlife.

The fiscal note prepared by the Division of the Budget indicated the League of Kansas Municipalities could not determine what, if any, fiscal effect passage of HB 2052 would have upon Kansas cities.