

SESSION OF 2019

SUPPLEMENTAL NOTE ON HOUSE BILL NO. 2167

As Amended by House Committee on
Commerce, Labor and Economic Development

Brief*

HB 2167, as amended, would allow landowners or tenants possessing hunt-on-your-own-land big game permits for antlered and antlerless white-tailed deer to sell the permits to nonresidents in accordance with a transfer system, which the Secretary of Wildlife, Parks and Tourism (Secretary) would establish. Each landowner or tenant would be limited to transfer one permit. The Secretary could charge a transfer fee, which would not exceed half the cost of a nonresident hunting permit and would not exceed the cost of the original permit paid by the landowner or tenant. The Secretary would be permitted discretion to restrict the location a transferee may hunt to the same area the landowner or tenant was eligible to hunt. The provisions of the bill would sunset on January 31, 2024.

Background

The bill was introduced by the House Committee on Commerce, Labor and Economic Development at the request of Representative Corbet on the behalf of a rancher. At the House Committee hearing, Representative Corbet spoke in favor of the bill, stating it would benefit the rural economy. Representative Johnson also spoke in favor of the bill, stating it would encourage better management of the deer population. A rancher and representatives of the Kansas Livestock Association and Kansas Farm Bureau spoke in

*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>

favor of the bill, expressing the reasons stated above. Two ranchers provided written-only testimony in favor of the bill.

The Secretary spoke in opposition to the bill, stating it would further complicate the permit system already in place. The Secretary questioned whether the landlord or tenant would have primacy in the transference of a permit.

The House Committee amended the bill to:

- Allow the Secretary to restrict the location a transferee may hunt white-tailed deer to the same area available to the landowner or tenant;
- Limit the number of permits that may be transferred to one per landowner or tenant; and
- Sunset the provisions of the bill on January 31, 2024.

According to the fiscal note provided by the Division of the Budget, the Department of Wildlife, Parks and Tourism indicates that while the bill as introduced would generate revenue from transfer fees, the fiscal effect cannot be estimated because the number of additional permits that would be sold or transferred is unknown.