HOUSE BILL No. 2750

By Committee on Governmental Organization and Elections

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AN ACT concerning eminent domain; relating to land surveys; amending K.S.A. 12-1306, 24-438, 24-467, 26-201 and 72-8212a and repealing the existing sections.

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Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Kansas:

Section 1. K.S.A. 12-1306 is hereby amended to read as follows: 12-1306. Whenever it shall become necessary in any city to condemn or appropriate land within or without the limits of said city for public parks for the use and benefit of the people of said city, and shall be so declared necessary by the council or by any board of city commissioners of said city to condemn or appropriate any private property, where the purchase price cannot be agreed upon with the owner of said property, said council or city commissioners shall then cause a survey to be made by some competent engineer and said survey and description of said land so required shall be filed with the city clerk, and thereupon said council or board of city commissioners shall make an order declaring the necessity of such appropriation and the purposes for which the same is to be condemned or appropriated and a description of the same as shown by said survey, and all other and further proceedings necessary for the condemnation and appropriation of said land shall be had and conducted as pro-vided by law the governing body of a city determines it is necessary to condemn land, located within or outside the corporate limits of the city, for public parks purposes or if the purchase price for such land cannot be agreed upon with the owner of the property, the governing body shall cause a survey and a description of such land to be made by a licensed land surveyor. Such survey and land description shall be filed with the city clerk. The governing body shall make an order declaring the necessity of such condemnation and the purposes for which the land is to be condemned. Such order shall include the land description as shown by the survey. Following the making of such order, the governing body may proceed with condemnation proceedings in the manner provided by K.S.A. 26-501 et seq., and amendments thereto.

Sec. 2. K.S.A. 24-438 is hereby amended to read as follows: 24-438. Whenever it shall be is deemed necessary to construct any levee across the right of way of any railroad company, and such railroad company shall

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be is entitled to compensation therefor, the board of directors shall have the power to may make such crossing or to condemn and appropriate so may condemn as much of such right of way or land as may be necessary for that purpose in the manner hereinafter provided; and whenever it shall be deemed. Whenever the board deems it necessary to appropriate condemn any private property for use by the district in widening, deepening or otherwise improving any natural watercourse to prevent the overflow thereof, or for the construction of any levee, canal, drain, or other work, the board of directors shall cause a survey and description of the such land so required out of the right of way or lands of such railroad company or out of the lands of any private owner to be made by some competent engineer and filed with its secretary, and thereupon to be made by a licensed land surveyor. Such survey and land description shall be filed with the secretary of the board. The board shall make an order declaring that the appropriation of such land condemnation is necessary and setting forth for what purpose the same land is to be used. The board of directors, as soon as practicable thereafter, shall proceed to exercise the power of eminent domain in accordance with K.S.A. 26-501 to 26-516, inclusive et seq., and amendments thereto.

Sec. 3. K.S.A. 24-467 is hereby amended to read as follows: 24-467. Whenever it shall be is deemed necessary to construct any ditch, levee, dike, jetty, riprap or other protective structure across or upon the land of any individual or corporation whether within or outside the territorial limits of the drainage district and such individual or corporation shall be is entitled to compensation therefor, the board of directors shall have the power to may construct such ditch, levee, dike, jetty, riprap or other protective structure or to may condemn and appropriate so as much of such land as may be necessary for that purpose in the manner hereinafter provided; and whenever it shall be deemed. Whenever the board deems it necessary to appropriate condemn any private property for use by the district in widening, deepening or otherwise improving any natural watercourse to prevent the overflow thereof or for the construction of any ditch, dike, levee, jetty, riprap, canal, drain or other work, the board of directors shall cause a survey and description of the land so required out of the lands of any private owner (individual or corporation) to be made by some competent engineer and filed with its secretary, and thereupon to be made by a licensed land surveyor. Such survey and description shall be filed with the secretary of the board. The board shall make an order declaring that the appropriation condemnation of such land is necessary and setting forth for what purpose the same land is to be used; and shall then the board may proceed to exercise the power of eminent domain in accordance with K.S.A. 26-501 to 26-516, inclusive et seq., and amendments thereto.

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Sec. 4. K.S.A. 26-201 is hereby amended to read as follows: 26-201. A city shall have the right to acquire by condemnation any interest in real property, including a fee simple title thereto. *Provided*, Cities shall not have the right to acquire a fee simple title to property condemned solely for street purposes. Whenever it shall be deemed necessary by the governing body of any city deems it necessary to appropriate condemn private property for the use of the city for any purpose whatsoever, the governing body shall, by resolution, shall declare such necessity and authorize a survey and description of the land or interest to be condemned to be made by some competent engineer a licensed land surveyor and filed with the city clerk. Such resolution shall be published once in the official city newspaper. Upon the filing of the survey and description of the land or interest to be condemned the governing body shall, by ordinance, shall authorize and provide for the acquisition of such land or interest, setting forth such condemnation, the interest to be taken and for what purpose the same is to be used. If in the opinion of the governing body any property is specially benefited by the proposed improvement such property shall be designated as the benefit district and the same shall be fixed by the ordinance authorizing and providing for the acquisition of the land or interest. The governing body, as soon as practicable after passage of the ordinance authorizing and providing for the appropriation condemnation of such land or interest and the fixing of the benefit district, if any is fixed, shall proceed to exercise the power of eminent domain in accordance with K.S.A. 26-501 to 26-516 inclusive et seq., and amendments thereto.

- Sec. 5. K.S.A. 72-8212a is hereby amended to read as follows: 72-8212a. (a) A unified school district may acquire by condemnation, for school purposes, any interest in real property, including fee simple title. If, within 10 years after entry of final judgment under K.S.A. 26-511, and amendments thereto, the school district fails to construct substantial buildings or improvements that are used for school purposes on any real property acquired under this subsection, the school district shall notify the original owners or their heirs or assigns that they have an option to purchase the property from the school district for an amount equal to the compensation awarded for the property under the eminent domain procedures act. Such option shall expire if not exercised within a period of six months after the date of the expiration of the ten-year period.
- (b) A unified school district may acquire by condemnation, for any purpose whatsoever, any reversionary interest held by others in real property which the school district has previously acquired by condemnation, deed or contract if:
- 42 (1) The district, or its predecessor districts, has constructed substan-43 tial improvements on the property; and

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- (2) the school district, or its predecessor districts, has held an interest in the property for at least 20 years.
- (c) When the board of education of a unified school district considers it necessary to condemn a property interest pursuant to this section, the board shall declare the necessity by resolution and shall authorize a competent engineer licensed land surveyor to make a survey and description of the property and the interest to be condemned and to file them. Such survey and land description shall be filed with the clerk of the board. The resolution shall be published once in a newspaper having general circulation in the school district. Upon the filing of the survey and description, the board of education shall provide by resolution for the acquisition of the property interest by condemnation. The resolution shall set forth a description of the property, the interest to be condemned and the purpose for which the property is and will be used. The board of education, as soon as practicable after the passage of the resolution, shall proceed to exercise the power of eminent domain in the manner provided by article 5 of chapter 26 of the Kansas Statutes Annotated.
- Sec. 6. K.S.A. 12-1306, 24-438, 24-467, 26-201 and 72-8212a are hereby repealed.
- Sec. 7. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its publication in the statute book.