

SESSION OF 2007

SUPPLEMENTAL NOTE ON HOUSE BILL NO. 2070

As Amended by House Committee of the Whole

Brief*

HB 2070, as amended, would prohibit the Chief Engineer of the Division of Water Resources from designating any new intensive groundwater use control areas (IGUCAs) after the effective date of the act. In addition, the Chief Engineer would be prevented from expanding the boundaries of any existing IGUCA after the effective date of this act. The provisions of this bill would expire on June 30, 2008. The bill would request the Legislative Coordinating Council to designate a special committee during the 2007 interim to study issues concerning the intensive groundwater use control areas and the Kansas Water Appropriations Act.

The bill becomes effective upon publication in the *Kansas Register*.

Background

Testifying on the original bill as proponents included David Cross and Allie Devine of the Kansas Livestock Association. Speaking in opposition to the bill was Constantine Cotsoradis, Kansas Department of Agriculture; Wayne Bossert, Kansas Groundwater Management District #4; and written testimony from Larry Panning. Providing neutral testimony was Edward Moses, Kansas Aggregate Producers' Association.

The House Agriculture and Natural Resources Budget Committee amended the bill to delete the original bill's effectiveness of an IGUCA to no more than five years. The House Committee added the provision where the Chief Engineer cannot designate any new IGUCAs or expand existing IGUCAs. These provisions will expire on June 30, 2008.

*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>

The House Committee of the Whole amended the bill to request the Legislative Coordinating Council designate a special committee during the 2007 interim to study issues concerning the intensive groundwater use control areas and the Kansas Water Appropriations Act to determine if the laws conflict and the need for control over future creation or expansion of intensive groundwater use control areas.

The fiscal note prepared by the Division of the Budget on the introduced version of the bill estimates that \$1,822,576 for eight IGUCAs (\$227,822 per IGUCA) would be needed from the State General Fund to implement the provisions of this act. This estimate assumes that the agency would seek to reestablish each existing IGUCA and any IGUCA that may be established in the future, and that each IGUCA could be reinstated within one year. Included in the total is funding for 13.0 FTE positions and associated operating costs.