

SESSION OF 2008

**SUPPLEMENTAL NOTE ON SENATE BILL NO. 474**

As Amended by House Committee of the Whole

**Brief\***

SB 474 would amend current law to allow field trials to be conducted on a licensed controlled shooting area without a permit. In addition, a non-resident who is participating in a field trial for dogs would not have to have a hunting license if the field trial is not conducted on a controlled shooting area.

In addition, the bill would add prairie dogs to the list of animals for which a resident of the state does not need a license to hunt.

**Background**

Chris Tymeson, Chief Legal Counsel, Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks, testified in support of the bill. He explained that currently, a field trial permit is required to conduct activities that would otherwise be lawful if the participants did not call the activity a field trial. He stated that the Department of Wildlife and Parks considers this limited situation a form of double regulation as the boundaries of the shooting area are posted, and it is known where activities are conducted outside of wild game bird seasons. Mr. Tymeson also noted that it takes time away from already limited Department personnel to process field trial permits and confirm their existence. Finally, he noted that with the proposed changes, the field trial participants would be required to have either a regular hunting license or a controlled shooting area hunting license.

---

\*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>

No other conferee testified before the committee.

The Senate Committee on Natural Resources amended the bill to clarify the language with respect to field trials for dogs. The Committee also added the amendment to add prairie dogs to the list of animals for which a person does not need a license to hunt.

The House Committee of the Whole amended the bill to allow only residents of the state, rather than any person, to hunt prairie dogs, moles, or gophers without a valid Kansas hunting license.

The fiscal note indicates that passage of SB 474 would result in a net increase of revenues to the Wildlife Fee Fund of \$2,036. The increase would result from an increase in controlled shooting area hunting licenses offset by a slight decrease in field trial permits. Any fiscal effect resulting from passage of the bill would be in addition to amounts included in *The FY 2009 Governor's Budget Report*.