

SESSION OF 2008

SUPPLEMENTAL NOTE ON SENATE BILL NO. 523

As Recommended by Senate Committee on
Transportation

Brief*

SB 523 would designate a portion of Kansas Highway 25 as the Great Plains Indian Highway. The designation would be on Kansas Highway 25 from the Nebraska state line to Interstate Highway 70. The bill also would:

- Require the Secretary of Transportation to place the signs along the highway right-of-way at proper intervals to indicate the designation;
- Preclude the signs from being erected until the Secretary has received sufficient moneys from gifts and donations to reimburse the Secretary for the cost of placing the signs and an additional 50 percent of the initial cost to defray future maintenance or replacement of the signs; and
- Allow the Secretary to accept and administer gifts and donations to aid in obtaining and installing suitable signs.

Background

Senator Ralph Ostmeyer sponsored and testified in support of the bill. He noted that he was representing economic agencies in Rawlins and Thomas County. Chris Sramek, Director, Rawlins County Economic Development, also submitted written testimony in favor of the designation. It was noted that Nebraska had designated its 87 miles of Highway 25, from the Kansas state line to I-80, in 2004 as the Great Plains

*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>

Indian Highway. It also was noted that extending this designation to 43 miles of Highway 25 through Rawlins and Thomas Counties would allow the highway from I-80 to I-70 to be uniformly so designated and would promote travel and tourism in the area. There were no other conferees.

The fiscal noted prepared by the Division of Budget indicates that the Kansas Department of Transportation reports that the bill would increase agency expenditures by \$1,920 to install the two signs, and to conduct future maintenance of the signs in FY 2009. The Department would collect \$2,880 in donations prior to the installation of the signs. Any fiscal effect resulting from the passage of the bill would be in addition to amounts recommended in *The FY 2009 Governor's Budget Report*.