

SESSION OF 2008

**SUPPLEMENTAL NOTE ON  
HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 5032**

As Recommended by House Committee on  
Agriculture and Natural Resources

**Brief\***

HCR 5032 would urge the United States Congress to amend the Flood Control Act of 1944 and Public Law 83-780, relating to the authorized purposes of federal reservoirs in the state of Kansas, relating to Perry, Tuttle Creek, and Milford reservoirs.

Specifically, the Resolution urges the United States Congress to amend the Flood Control Act of 1944 and Public Law 83-780 relating to the authorized purposes for Perry, Tuttle Creek and Milford reservoirs to remove the release of water for navigation flows as an authorized purpose for these reservoirs.

The Secretary of State would be directed to send an enrolled copy of the concurrent resolution to the United States Congress; the members of the Kansas Congressional Delegation; Governor Kathleen Sebelius; the Assistant Secretary of the Army for Civil Works; the Secretary of the Interior; and the Directors of the Missouri River Association of States and Tribes.

**Background**

Conferees who testified in support of the concurrent resolution included: Representative Lee Tafanelli; Steve Adams, Natural Resources Coordinator, Kansas Wildlife and Parks; and Tracy Streeter, Director, Kansas Water Office.

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\*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>

Representative Tapanelli stressed that the problems associated with releases of water for navigation purposes have not been resolved. He stated that the Corps of Engineers' current systems and authority will not allow it to address this issue without action by the United States Congress to change the Corps of Engineers' mission as it relates to the Missouri River, navigation, and the state's federal reservoirs.

Tracy Streeter of the Kansas Water Office expressed concern about the impacts to water supply and water quality when navigation releases occur. He also said the Kansas Water Office is concerned about the economic impacts that occur at the reservoirs with the loss of surface areas and lake depths resulting from navigation releases.

Steve Adams, Kansas Wildlife and Parks, expressed concern that water releases can lower the water levels as much as 6 feet below conservation pool while only increasing the water level of the Missouri River a few inches for a very short time. He said increased risk to water supplies, impacts to wildlife management, reduced access to the lakes and impacts to local businesses are a few of the problems associated with water releases from the reservoirs.

No other conferees testified on the concurrent resolution.