

SESSION OF 2010

**SUPPLEMENTAL NOTE ON
HOUSE SUBSTITUTE FOR SENATE BILL NO. 293**

As Recommended by House Committee on
Transportation

Brief*

House Sub. for SB 293 would extend from 20 to 25 years the period during which certain requirements for a school bus – for design, lighting equipment, distinctive markings, special warning devices, and other equipment – would be governed by the requirements effective at the time the bus was manufactured.

Background

The original SB 293 would have increased the size requirements for a motor vehicle to be classified as an “all terrain vehicle.” Those provisions were enacted with SB 275 in 2009. The substitute bill removes those provisions and substitutes the contents of HB 2486 as introduced.

Those appearing in support of the original HB 2486 were Representative Pat George, a representative of the Kansas Association of School Boards, and two district superintendents. Written proponent testimony was received from a school district transportation manager, two superintendents, and the executive director of United School Administrators of Kansas. Proponent conferees said the bill would allow districts to save money. Several conferees stated that school buses annually are required to pass both mechanical and Highway Patrol inspections, and that the inspection requirement would not change. (The inspection requirement is contained in Kansas Administrative Regulation 91-38-5.)

*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 executive director of the Kansas State Pupil Transportation Association testified in opposition to the bill. She stated that the bill would exempt some buses, for an additional five years, from adding safety equipment including increased emergency exits, back-up warning alarms, and anti-lock brakes.

The fiscal note provided by the Division of the Budget states that this bill would have no fiscal effect on the Department of Education and that savings for school districts, because they would be required to acquire fewer vehicles, cannot be estimated.