

Agriculture Conservation Districts; SB 36

SB 36 amends law regarding conservation districts.

[*Note:* Conservation districts were first established in law in 1937 in response to the Dust Bowl. The conservation district is the main local unit of government regarding the conservation of soil, water, and other related natural resources located within the boundaries of a county and operates under the purview of the Division of Conservation (Division) of the Kansas Department of Agriculture.]

The bill changes the date, from September 1 to November 1, by which conservation districts are required to submit a certification to the Division of the amount of moneys required for conservation district activities each year.

The bill increases the cap on the amount of funding that is allocated by the Division to the conservation districts from \$25,000 to \$50,000 per district, beginning in FY 2026, subject to appropriation.

The bill also increases the State's current matching funding from \$1 to \$2 in state funding for each \$1 in county funding.