

SESSION OF 2026

SUPPLEMENTAL NOTE ON HOUSE BILL NO. 2477

As Recommended by House Committee on
Water

Brief*

HB 2477 would require the Division of Water Resources (DWR) of the Kansas Department of Agriculture (KDA) to publish on its official website a map and all orders identifying the locations of all applied-for water diversions and proposed changes in points of diversion.

The bill would expand notice requirements by requiring individual notice to all landowners within one-half mile of an applied-for diversion or a proposed change in the point of diversion of more than 300 feet. The bill would also remove the current requirement to notify surrounding water right owners that a water conservation area is being established.

Background

The bill was introduced by the House Committee on Water at the request of the Assistant Secretary of Agriculture on behalf of the Kansas Department of Agriculture.

House Committee on Water

In the House Committee hearing, **proponent** testimony was provided by the Water Appropriation Program Manager, Division of Water Resources, KDA, who stated the bill would improve agency efficiency by simplifying and standardizing notice procedures for water right applications, and ensure

*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 <https://klrd.gov/>

notice to potentially affected parties while protecting applicant privacy by limiting the public posting of personal information.

Written-only **neutral** testimony was provided by representatives of Big Bend Groundwater Management District No. 5 and the Kansas Farm Bureau, which included a concern regarding notification requirements for water conservation areas.

Fiscal Information

According to the fiscal note prepared by the Division of the Budget on the bill, the KDA and Kansas Water Office indicate that the enactment of the bill would have no fiscal effects on operations.

Water rights; Groundwater management district; Water diversions; Water rights