

SESSION OF 2026

SUPPLEMENTAL NOTE ON HOUSE BILL NO. 2522

As Amended by House Committee of the Whole

Brief*

HB 2522, as amended, would authorize vehicles engaged in highway construction and maintenance operations to display flashing, rotating, or oscillating amber, green, or white lights, or one or a combination of two of those colors, at all times in a road construction zone. The bill would also authorize stationary trailers to display flashing, rotating, or oscillating white and blue lights between sunset and sunrise within the area of a road construction zone when any portion of the roadway is closed and workers are present in the road construction zone. Continuing law authorizes the Secretary of Transportation to adopt rules and regulations regarding special flashing lights on vehicles engaged in highway construction or maintenance; the bill would require those rules and regulations to be in accordance with the above provisions.

Background

The bill was introduced by the House Committee on Transportation at the request of a representative of the Kansas Contractors Association.

*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/>

House Committee on Transportation

In the House Committee hearing, **proponent** testimony was provided by representatives of Bettis Companies, C-Hawkk Construction LLC, Kansas Contractors Association, and the Kansas Department of Transportation (KDOT). The proponents generally stated the bill would increase safety for construction zone workers on highways because the flashing lights would give warning to vehicle traffic traveling near the construction zones.

Written-only proponent testimony was provided by a representative of the Kansas Turnpike Authority.

Neutral testimony was provided by a representative of the League of Kansas Municipalities (LKM). The representative stated LKM supports protecting highway construction workers but does not support the use of blue lights on anything other than emergency vehicles.

Written-only neutral testimony was provided by a representative of the Kansas Highway Patrol (KHP).

Opponent testimony was provided by a representative of the Kansas Association of Chiefs of Police, Kansas Peace Officers Association, and Kansas Sheriffs Association. The opponent stated the associations are opposed to the bill due to the option of using a blue light as a warning light on construction vehicles. He stated red and blue flashing lights are traditionally recognized to be for emergency vehicles only and blue should signify emergency vehicles only.

Written-only opponent testimony was provided by a representative of the Office of the State Fire Marshal.

No other testimony was provided.

The Committee amended the bill to:

- Allow the proposed white and blue warning lights to be used on stationary trailers instead of stationary vehicles;
- Specify the use of the white and blue lights to be within the area of a road construction zone; and
- Specify the road construction zone is closed to traffic.

House Committee of the Whole

The House Committee of the Whole amended the bill to authorize use of white and blue lights on trailers between sunrise and sunset when workers are present if any portion of the roadway within a road construction zone is closed, rather than when the construction zone is closed to traffic.

Fiscal Information

According to the fiscal note prepared by the Division of the Budget on the bill, as introduced, KDOT and KHP indicate enactment of the bill would not have a fiscal effect.

Secretary of Transportation; highway construction; stationary trailers; warning lights