SESSION OF 2012

SUPPLEMENTAL NOTE ON SENATE BILL NO. 334

As Amended by House Committee of the Whole

Brief*

SB 334, as amended, would allow the Director of Vehicles to waive the skills test for an applicant for a commercial driver's license (CDL) if that applicant provides evidence of certain military commercial vehicle driving experience.

The bill also would allow a veteran to request a "veteran" designation be printed on the veteran's driver's license. The veteran would be required to provide proof of service in the U.S. Army, Navy, Air Force, Coast Guard, or Marine Corps or in the Kansas National Guard and proof of honorable discharge, including a copy of the veteran's DD214 form. The bill would authorize the Director of Vehicles to adopt rules and regulations necessary to carry out the veteran designation provisions.

Background

The Director of Vehicles, Department of Revenue, testified in support of the original bill to the Senate Transportation Committee, and the Director's representative testified as a proponent to the House Transportation Committee. There was no other testimony. A Division of Vehicles official and a representative of the Kansas Motor Carriers Association also answered legislator questions.

The bill would require the applicant's military driving experience to meet requirements of 49 C.F.R. 383.77. Those

^{*}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

include a requirement that the applicant was operating a vehicle representative of the commercial motor vehicle the applicant expects to operate, for at least the two years immediately preceding discharge from the military, and a requirement that the applicant has not been convicted of any offense (such as driving under the influence of alcohol or a controlled substance) that would disqualify a civilian commercial driver. An applicant still would be required to pass the Kansas knowledge test for driving a commercial motor vehicle.

The House Committee of the Whole amended the bill to add provisions related to a veteran designation on a driver's license.

According to the fiscal note prepared by the Division of the Budget on the original bill, the Department of Revenue estimates SB 334 would increase expenditures from the Division of Vehicles Operating Fund by \$3,792 in FY 2013 for 24 hours of programming time to update the Motor Vehicle Registration System. No fiscal note on the veteran designation provisions was available at the time of Committee of the Whole action to recommend the bill favorably for passage.