SESSION OF 2014

SUPPLEMENTAL NOTE ON HOUSE BILL NO. 2549

As Recommended by House Committee on Agriculture and Natural Resources

Brief*

HB 2549 would add an additional exception to the general prohibition of the underground burial of hazardous waste. The new exception would permit the on-site disposal or consolidation of solid and hazardous wastes, including soils, sediments, and debris, if the wastes are generated as the result of a clean-up and approved by the Secretary of Health and Environment. The exception in the bill would include clean-up from adjacent or nearby property under separate ownership when it is a part of the approved clean-up.

Background

This introduction of this bill was made by a spokesperson from Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE). At the House Committee hearing on the bill, the only conferee was from KDHE who appeared as a proponent. The conferee indicated the bill was introduced to facilitate remediation projects at facilities where widespread contamination of soil, sediment, and debris may exist. The conferee stated the ability to consolidate and cap the waste on site will allow these properties to be place back into productive use in a cost effective manner. The conferee also stated that when a site contains widespread contamination, the most efficient and effective remediation alternative often includes the consolidation of contaminated materials into smaller areas to minimize long-term management

^{*}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

responsibilities and the risk of exposure and public health impacts.

The fiscal note on the bill states passage would not directly affect state revenue; however, it could reduce expenditures for state and local governments, or other parties responsible for cleanup projects. It also indicates that allowing for the on-site burial of contaminated waste instead of off-site disposal would reduce expenditures. The fiscal note states the bill would have no fiscal effect on KDHE.