UPDATED SESSION OF 2017

SUPPLEMENTAL NOTE ON HOUSE BILL NO. 2098

As Recommended by Senate Committee on Federal and State Affairs

Brief*

HB 2098 would name the bison herd at the Mined Land Wildlife Area in Crawford County the "Bob Grant Bison Herd."

Background

The bill was introduced by the House Committee on Agriculture. At the House Committee hearing, Representative Lusker appeared as a proponent and explained former Representative Bob Grant had a great interest in the maintenance of the bison herd in Crawford County. Representative Dierks and former Representative Heinemann also testified as proponents, commenting on the service of Representative Grant and detailing their experiences with him.

The spokesperson for the Kansas Department of Wildlife, Parks and Tourism (KDWPT) also appeared as a proponent of the bill. The spokesperson stated the bison herd is one of three herds in the state maintained by the agency. The particular bison herd named in the bill currently has five bison, which are located in Cherokee County, while KDWPT refurbishes the Crawford County bison pen. The spokesperson indicated KDWPT would phase in the appropriate signage and publications as they are needed.

No other testimony was provided.

^{*}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

The House Committee recommended the bill be placed on the Consent Calendar.

The same agency conferee presented testimony In a Senate Committee on Federal and State Affairs hearing on SB 77, a bill with the same contents, as introduced. Several Senate Committee members also spoke in support of the bill.

The Senate Committee recommended HB 2098 favorably for passage and recommended the bill be placed on the Consent Calendar.

According to the fiscal note prepared by the Division of the Budget, KDWPT states enactment of the bill would require the agency to change signage at the property and change information in agency brochures and publications, but these changes would be phased in as signs and publications are updated as part of normal agency operations.