

SESSION OF 2024

**SUPPLEMENTAL NOTE ON SUBSTITUTE FOR HOUSE  
BILL NO. 2542**

As Recommended by House Committee on  
Agriculture and Natural Resources

**Brief\***

Sub. for HB 2542 would amend the Kansas Pet Animal Act (Act) to:

- Remove from the definition for “adequate veterinary medical care” the provision which adequate veterinary medical care shall not apply to U.S. Department of Agriculture-licensed animal breeders or animal distributors;
- Require the Division of Animal Health, Kansas Department of Agriculture (KDA), to retain records of inspections pursuant to the Act for no less than five years; and
- Remove the requirement for the Animal Health Commissioner to adopt rules and regulations that are promulgated by the U.S. Secretary of Agriculture regarding U.S. Department of Agriculture-licensed animal distributors and animal breeders and animal distributor and animal breeder premises.

---

\*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>

## **Background**

The bill was introduced by the House Committee on Agriculture and Natural Resources at the request of the Deputy Secretary of Agriculture.

### ***House Committee on Agriculture and Natural Resources***

[*Note:* The House Committee adopted a substitute bill that removed all but three provisions of the bill. Testimony on the bill addressed the numerous changes made by the bill, as introduced, and does not reflect the current contents of the bill.]

In the House Committee hearing, the Secretary of Agriculture and representatives of Kansas Pet Advocates, Southeast Kansas Humane Society, Leavenworth County Humane Society, and Lawrence Humane Society provided **proponent** testimony on the bill. The proponents generally stated the bill is the result of stakeholder input with the KDA and addresses adequate watering, authorization for regulations, closing inspections, and adding a rescue network representative to the Kansas Pet Animal Advisory Board.

Written-only proponent testimony was provided by representatives of the Humane Society of the United States, Kansas Animal Control Association, Meowy Matchmakers Rescue Group, Northeast Kansas Animal Welfare Foundation, Prairie Paws Animal Shelter, Inc., and Wichita Animal Action League.

**Opponent** testimony was provided by representatives of the Kansas Livestock Association and Kansas Pet Industry Consulting Services, who stated the bill is not representative of what stakeholders agreed to with KDA, and the bill does not have a consensus among the Kansas pet industry. The representatives also expressed concern that some of the requirements listed in the bill may have consequences for the Kansas livestock industry.

Written-only opponent testimony was provided by Kansas Pet Professionals and The Calvary Group.

No other testimony was provided.

The House Committee adopted a substitute bill that removed all but three provisions of the bill, as introduced.

### **Fiscal Information**

An updated fiscal note on the substitute bill was not immediately available.

Agriculture; Kansas Pet Animal Act; Kansas Department of Agriculture; Animal Health Commissioner; record retention; statutory definitions