

SESSION OF 2014

SUPPLEMENTAL NOTE ON SENATE BILL NO. 278

As Recommended by Senate Committee on
Ways and Means

Brief*

SB 278 would transfer all duties, powers, employees, and funding of the Board of Veterinary Examiners (Board) into the Division of Animal Health in the Kansas Department of Agriculture (KDA) for a two-year period beginning on July 1, 2014. The bill would suspend the statutory 10.0 percent revenue transfer from the Veterinary Examiners Fee Fund to the State General Fund for services provided by the Department of Administration for FY 2015 and FY 2016.

The Executive Director of the Board would be jointly appointed by the Board and the Animal Health Commissioner. The Board would retain rules and regulations authority and proposed rules and regulations would be formally proposed by the Secretary of Agriculture. The Secretary could not adopt any rule or regulation without approval by the Board.

Background

The contents of the bill were recommended by the merger task force created by 2013 SB 171. The conclusions of the task force were presented by the task force chairperson, who spoke as a proponent of the bill at the Senate Committee hearing. Other proponents included representatives of the KDA and the Kansas Veterinary Medical 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 <http://www.kslegislature.org>

The Legislative Division of Post Audit presented an audit report from 2012 concerning the Board's management. The audit included several recommendations that the Board stated it had implemented.

The fiscal note prepared by the Division of the Budget indicates the bill would reduce State General Fund revenue for FY 2015 and FY 2016 by \$26,000 as a result of the suspension of the statutory transfer.