

HOUSE BILL No. 2492

By Committee on Agriculture and Natural Resources

1-20

1 AN ACT concerning conservation; establishing the Kansas conservation
2 reserve enhancement program.

3
4 *Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Kansas:*

5 Section 1. (a) As used in this section:

6 (1) "Division" means the Kansas department of agriculture division
7 of conservation; and

8 (2) "program" means the conservation reserve enhancement program
9 of the United States department of agriculture.

10 (b) The division shall administer the program on behalf of the state of
11 Kansas pursuant to agreements with the United States department of
12 agriculture for the purpose of implementing beneficial water quality and
13 water quantity projects concerning targeted watersheds to be enrolled in
14 the program.

15 (c) There is hereby established in the state treasury the Kansas
16 conservation reserve enhancement program fund, which shall be
17 administered by the division. All expenditures from the Kansas
18 conservation reserve enhancement program fund shall be for the
19 implementation of the program pursuant to agreements between the state
20 of Kansas and the United States department of agriculture. All
21 expenditures from such fund shall be made in accordance with
22 appropriation acts upon warrants of the director of accounts and reports
23 issued pursuant to vouchers approved by the secretary of agriculture or by
24 a person or persons designated by the secretary.

25 (d) The division may request the assistance of other state agencies,
26 Kansas state university, local governments and private entities in the
27 implementation of the program.

28 (e) The division may receive and expend moneys from the federal or
29 state government or private sources for the purpose of carrying out the
30 provisions of this section. All moneys received shall be remitted to the
31 state treasurer in accordance with the provisions of K.S.A. 75-4215, and
32 amendments thereto. Upon receipt of each such remittance, the state
33 treasurer shall deposit the entire amount in the state treasury to the credit
34 of the Kansas conservation reserve enhancement program fund. The
35 division shall carry over unexpended moneys in the Kansas conservation
36 reserve enhancement program fund from one fiscal year to the next.

1 (f) The division may enter into cost-share contracts with landowners
2 that will result in fulfilling specific objectives of projects approved in
3 agreements between the United States department of agriculture and the
4 state of Kansas.

5 (g) The division shall adopt rules and regulations as necessary for the
6 administration of this section. When adopting such rules and regulations,
7 the division shall consider each individual project size, financial
8 incentives, eligible conservation practices, management objectives,
9 landowner economic opportunities and all other pertinent information that
10 will provide verifiable results in achieving the stated goals of the program.

11 Sec. 2. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its
12 publication in the statute book.