

SESSION OF 2024

SUPPLEMENTAL NOTE ON HOUSE BILL NO. 2477

As Recommended by House Committee on
Agriculture and Natural Resources

Brief*

HB 2477 would increase the remediation corrective action limit reimbursement from the Kansas Agricultural Remediation Fund (Fund) from \$200,000 to \$300,000 for any one site unless the Kansas Agricultural Remediation Board (Board) sets forth a different amount that is less than or equal to \$300,000.

The bill would also increase the reimbursement amount from \$400,000 to \$600,000 if the property under remediation has been sold or leased and both the buyer and the seller or the lessee and the lessor are responsible for remediation. The bill would authorize the Board to set forth a different amount that is less than or equal to \$600,000.

In addition, the bill would increase the limitation of expenditures from the Fund for administrative expenses of the Board from \$150,000 to \$175,000 in any fiscal year.

Background

The bill was introduced by Representative Rahjes.

House Committee on Agriculture and Natural Resources

In the House Committee hearing, the Deputy Secretary of Agriculture and representatives of the Kansas

*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>

Cooperative Council; Kansas Corn Growers Association, Kansas Soybean Association, Kansas Grain Sorghum Producers Association, and Kansas Association of Wheat Growers; and Kansas Grain and Feed Association and Kansas Agribusiness Retailers Association provided **proponent** testimony. The proponents stated that stakeholders from the industry pay into the Fund, which helps to cover the cost of chemical, pesticide, or fumigation product clean-up that is not covered by regular insurance coverage. The current remediation reimbursement limit of \$200,000 does not cover the current costs of remediation, and the increase proposed in the bill would help cover those costs.

Written-only proponent testimony was provided by a representative of the Bureau of Environmental Remediation, Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE).

No other testimony was provided.

Fiscal Information

According to the fiscal note provided by the Division of the Budget on the bill, the Department of Agriculture and KDHE indicate enactment of the bill would have no fiscal effect on agency operations.

Agriculture; Kansas Agricultural Remediation Fund; reimbursement; remediation