

SESSION OF 2011

**SUPPLEMENTAL NOTE ON HOUSE BILL NO. 2386**

As Amended by House Committee on  
Education

**Brief\***

HB 2386, as amended, would remove the requirement in existing law that second year Kansas State University veterinary medical students who perform spay or neuter surgeries at animal shelters be supervised by a faculty member of Kansas State University's Veterinary Medical Center. The bill would require that such students performing spay or neuter surgeries would do so as part of a spay or neuter program that meets American Veterinary Medical Association Council on Education accreditation standards and as part of curriculum under the direct supervision of a licensed veterinarian. In addition, the bill would limit students to performing spay or neuter surgeries on dogs or cats belonging to a pound or animal shelter, and not dogs or cats belonging to a member of the public. Finally, the bill would only permit one student per supervising veterinarian to perform a spay or neuter at any one time.

The bill would become effective upon publication in the *Kansas Register*.

**Background**

Proponents of the original bill included Dr. Roger Fingland, Executive Associate Dean of the College of Veterinary Medicine at Kansas State University and a third year veterinary student at Kansas State University. The

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\*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>

Executive Director of the Kansas Board of Veterinary Examiners provided neutral testimony. There were no opponents.

The House Committee on Education amended the bill by adding language that would require that such students performing spay or neuter surgeries would do so as part of a spay or neuter program that meets American Veterinary Medical Association Council on Education accreditation standards. In addition, the amendment would limit students to performing spay or neuter surgeries on dogs or cats belonging to a pound or animal shelter, and not dogs or cats belonging to a member of the public. The amendment would only permit one student per supervising veterinarian to perform a spay or neuter at any one time. Finally, an amendment would make the bill become effective upon publication in the *Kansas Register*.

The Division of Budget fiscal note on the original bill stated that the Kansas Board of Veterinary Examiners (Board) indicated that passage of the bill could result in additional costs for inspecting and monitoring the licensed veterinary facilities where the surgeries could take place; however, a precise fiscal effect is difficult to predict, according to the Board because the number of veterinarians who would supervise student surgeries is unknown. The Division of the Budget assumed the bill would not create additional surgical premises for the Board to inspect. Kansas State University and the Animal Health Department both stated that the bill would have no fiscal effect on those agencies.