

SESSION OF 2015

**SUPPLEMENTAL NOTE ON SENATE BILL NO. 43**

As Recommended by Senate Committee on  
Transportation

**Brief\***

SB 43 would designate a portion of K-8 as the Home on the Range Highway. The designated portion of K-8 would begin at the junction of K-8 with US-36 and continue north to the Nebraska state line, in Smith County.

The bill would establish these provisions related to signage:

- Require the Secretary of Transportation to place suitable signs to indicate the designation;
- Preclude the signs from being erected until the Secretary has received sufficient moneys from gifts and donations to reimburse the Secretary for the cost of placing the signs and an additional 50 percent of the initial cost to defray future maintenance or replacement of the signs; and
- Allow the Secretary to accept and administer gifts and donations to aid in obtaining and installing suitable signs.

**Background**

The bill was introduced by the Senate Committee on Transportation at the request of Senator Bowers.

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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>

In the Senate Committee, a representative of the Ellen Rust Living Trust spoke in favor of the bill, emphasizing the history and significance of the song “Home on the Range” and the cabin where the song was written. He stated the highway to be designated is the only paved road to the cabin site. Senator Bowers and Representative Waymaster also spoke in favor of the bill. No neutral or opponent testimony was provided.

The Senate Committee recommended the bill be placed on the Consent Calendar.

According to the fiscal note prepared by the Division of the Budget, the Kansas Department of Transportation (KDOT) indicates two signs would need to be planned, manufactured, installed, and maintained. The cost of these two signs, including installation would be \$2,940. The additional 50 percent needed for future maintenance would be \$1,470. The agency would have to receive a total of \$4,410 from donations before installing the signs. If the bill is enacted, KDOT states it would need an increase in expenditure authority from the agency operations account of the State Highway Fund. Any fiscal effect associated with the bill is not reflected in *The FY2016 Governor’s Budget Report*.