Session of 2021

SENATE BILL No. 40

By Committee on Agriculture and Natural Resources

1-21

AN ACT concerning agriculture; relating to the Kansas department of agriculture division of conservation; implementing the provisions of 2011 executive reorganization order No. 40; amending K.S.A. 2-1916, 49-605, 49-611, 49-613, 49-618, 49-620, 49-623, 82a-1602, 82a-1603, 82a-1607 and 82a-1702 and K.S.A. 2020 Supp. 2-1903, 2-1904, 2-1907, 2-1907c, 2-1908, 2-1915, 2-1930, 2-1931, 2-1933, 49-603, 49-606 and 49-621 and repealing the existing sections; also repealing K.S.A. 49-619.

 Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Kansas:

Section 1. K.S.A. 2020 Supp. 2-1903 is hereby amended to read as follows: 2-1903. As used in this act:

- (1) "District" or "conservation district" means a governmental subdivision of this state, and a public body corporate and politic, organized in accordance with the provisions of this act, for the purposes, with the powers, and subject to the restrictions hereinafter set forth.
- (2) "Supervisor" means one of the members of the governing body of a district, elected or appointed in accordance with the provisions of this act.
- (3) "Commission" or "state conservation commission" means the conservation program policy board created in K.S.A. 2-1904, and amendments thereto, *including the state conservation commission continued in existence by K.S.A.* 75-5,128, and amendments thereto.
 - (4) "State" means the state of Kansas.
- (5) "Agency of this state" includes the government of this state and any subdivision, agency or instrumentality, corporation or otherwise, of the government of this state.
- (6) "United States" or "agencies of the United States" includes the United States of America, the soil natural resources conservation service of the United States department of agriculture and any other agency or instrumentality, corporate or otherwise, of the United States of America.
- (7) "Government" or "governmental" includes the government of this state, the government of the United States and any subdivision, agency or instrumentality, corporate or otherwise, of either of them.
- (8) "Division" or "division of conservation" means the agency division of conservation established within the Kansas department of

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interests therein in furtherance of the purposes and the provisions of this act;

- (f) to make available, on such terms as it shall prescribe, to land occupiers within the district, agricultural and engineering machinery and equipment, fertilizer, seeds; and seedlings, and such other material or equipment, as will assist such land occupiers to carry on operations upon their lands for the conservation of soil resources, soil and grassland health, protection of water quality and for the prevention and control of soil erosion;
- (g) to develop comprehensive plans for the conservation of soil and water resources and for the control and prevention of soil erosion, flood damages, impaired drainage, the effects of—drouth drought within the district and the maintenance and improvement of water quality,—which with such plans—shall specify specifying in such detail as may be possible, the acts, procedures, performances, and avoidances—which that are necessary or desirable for the effectuation of such plans, including the specification of engineering operations, methods of cultivation, the growing of vegetation, cropping programs, tillage practices, and changes in use of land, and to publish such plans and information and bring them to the attention of occupiers of lands within the district;
- (h) to take over, by purchase, lease, or otherwise, and to administer, any soil-conservation, erosion-control, or soil and grassland health, erosion-prevention, flood prevention, water quality or water management project located within its boundaries undertaken by the United States or any of its agencies, or by this state or any of its agencies; to manage, as agent of the United States or any of its agencies, or of this state or any of its agencies, any soil-conservation, erosion-control, or erosion-prevention, flood prevention or water management project within its boundaries; to act for the district or as agent for the United States, or any of its agencies, or for this state or any of its agencies, in connection with the acquisition, construction, operation, maintenance, or administration of any soilconservation, erosion-control, or soil and grassland health, erosionprevention, flood prevention, water quality or water management project within its boundaries; to accept donations, gifts, and contributions in money, services, materials, or otherwise, from the United States or any of its agencies, or from this state or any of its agencies, and from persons, firms, corporations or associations, and to use or expend such moneys, services, materials, or other contributions in carrying on its operations;
- (i) to sue and be sued in the name of the district; to have a seal, which seal shall be judicially noticed; to have perpetual succession unless terminated as hereinafter provided; to make and execute contracts and other instruments, necessary or convenient to the exercise of its powers; to make, and from time to time amend and repeal, rules and regulations not

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subject to the authority of the authorizing state or federal agency