

**CORRECTED**  
*SESSION OF 2011*

**SUPPLEMENTAL NOTE ON SENATE  
SUBSTITUTE FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 2149**

As Recommended by Senate Committee on  
Ways and Means

**Brief\***

Senate Sub. for HB 2149 would create the University Engineering Initiative Act. The Act is intended to increase the number of engineering graduates to 1,365 graduates per year by 2021. The Act directs the Board of Regents, in consultation with the Kansas State University, Wichita State University, the University of Kansas and private industry, to develop a plan to ensure engineering industry partners find the new talent, designs and techniques needed to fuel economic growth and business success in Kansas. The Act authorizes the acquisition, construction, and equipping of engineering facilities on state-owned property of the Board of Regents or any of the three universities. In addition, the Act authorizes the issuance of up to \$195.0 million in bonds for these facilities, with debt service to be paid from funds of the Board of Regents, either revenues or funds appropriated by the Legislature.

The Act creates four new funds in the state treasury: Kan-Grow Engineering Fund-Regents, Kan-Grow Engineering Fund-WSU, Kan-Grow Engineering Fund-KSU, and Kan-Grow Engineering Fund-KU. Expenditures transferred from the Kan-Grow Engineering Fund-Regents from either the State General Fund or Expanded Lottery Act Revenues Fund to the university shall be matched on a \$1 for \$1 basis from non-state sources.

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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>

The Act appropriates \$4.0 million in FY 2013, and \$7.0 million in FY 2014 and each year thereafter to the Kan-Grow Engineering Fund-Regents from the Expanded Lottery Act Revenues Fund. The Act also amends the enacting statute for the Expanded Lottery Act Revenues Fund to expand its uses to included the University Engineering Initiative Act.

## **Background**

The contents of the original bill were eliminated and replaced with its existing content. The original bill would have lowered the aggregate threshold amount that would require approval by act of the Legislature from 640 acres to 160 acres of land purchased by the Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks. The bill also would have removed the exception that currently allows for a purchase of land without such legislative approval from a private individual if the purchase price is less than the appraised value of the land. Finally, the bill would have allowed the State Finance Council to give approval of land purchases when the Legislature is not in session.

The Board of Regents, the universities, and industry representatives spoke in support of the substitute bill. There were no opponents.

The fiscal effect of this bill is not yet known beyond the direct appropriations, due to the variability of debt service rates on bonded indebtedness.