

SESSION OF 2011

SUPPLEMENTAL NOTE ON HOUSE BILL NO. 2258

As Amended by House Committee on Social
Services Budget

Brief*

HB 2258 would give the Secretary of Social and Rehabilitation Services (SRS) the authority to convey certain property in Ellsworth County, Kansas, to the Evangelical Lutheran Good Samaritan Society (Evangelical) via quitclaim deed. The bill would allow the State of Kansas to retain all mineral rights to the property, as well as the right to enter and leave the property at any time for the purpose of oil, gas, or other mineral production. The bill would provide that, in order to protect improvements that could be made to the land by future owners, the State of Kansas cannot harm the surface of the land when exercising its mineral rights.

Background

Representative Steve Johnson spoke in favor of the bill. He testified that this property was originally sold to Senior Christian Community Centers, Inc., now doing business as Evangelical, in 1959. The terms of that sale dictated that should Evangelical cease doing business on the property as a charitable healthcare organization, the land would revert to State ownership. Evangelical is selling the land to Smoky Hill Development Corporation, which in turn will utilize the land for economic development. Without passage of the bill, this action by Evangelical would cause the property to revert to State ownership. Mineral rights were retained by the State in the original sale.

*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>

A representative of the Smoky Hill Development Corporation also spoke in support of the bill.

The House Social Services Budget Committee amended the bill by stating that in order to protect improvements that could be made to the land by future owners, the State of Kansas cannot harm the surface of the land when exercising its mineral rights.

The fiscal note on the original bill indicated that the bill would have no effect on the state's revenue or expenditures