Brief*

HB 2558 would extend the season for hunting and collecting game birds on controlled shooting areas (CSAs) from September 1 to March 31 to September 1 to April 30.

Background

The bill was introduced by the House Committee on Agriculture at the request of a representative of the Kansas Sport Hunting Association (Association). At the House Committee hearing, a representative of the Association provided testimony in favor of the bill. The representative indicated CSAs have extended hunting seasons, because the CSAs are responsible for replacing whatever game birds are removed from the property. The CSAs license land through the Kansas Department of Wildlife, Parks and Tourism (KDWPT), hire employees to serve as guides, often provide a variety of hospitality services, and bring hunters into the state.

The Secretary of Wildlife, Parks and Tourism provided neutral testimony on the bill. The Secretary stated the proposed season extension would have no biological impact, as the nesting season for the game birds has not begun or is barely beginning in late April.

No opponent testimony was provided.

*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 House Committee recommended the bill be placed on the Consent Calendar.

The fiscal note prepared by the Division of the Budget states the KDWPT indicates the bill would have no fiscal effect.