

SESSION OF 2018

SUPPLEMENTAL NOTE ON SENATE BILL NO. 375

As Recommended by Senate Committee on
Transportation

Brief*

SB 375 would add an exemption from limits on the lengths of vehicles and vehicle combinations operated on Kansas public roads to allow a towaway trailer transporter combination not exceeding 82 feet in length. The bill would define a towaway trailer transporter combination as a trailer transporter towing unit and 2 trailers or semitrailers with a total weight not exceeding 26,000 pounds; the bill would require the trailers carry no property and constitute inventory property of a trailer manufacturer, distributor, or dealer. The bill would define a trailer transporting towing unit as a power unit not used to carry property when operating in this combination.

Background

The bill was requested by a representative of the Kansas Department of Transportation (KDOT), who testified as a proponent of the bill in the Senate Committee on Transportation hearing. No other testimony was provided.

As noted in KSA 2017 Supp. 8-1904 (which would be amended by the bill), the general length limit for a combination of vehicles is 65 feet. Federal law, in 49 U.S. Code § 31111, prohibits a state from prescribing or enforcing length limits other than those established in federal law. As noted in testimony, the Fixing America's Surface Transportation (FAST) Act (P.L. 114-94), signed into law in

*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>

December 2015, added an exception to the general length limits that would be mirrored by the bill.

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

According to the fiscal note prepared by the Division of the Budget, enactment of the bill would have no fiscal effect on the operations of KDOT or the Kansas Highway Patrol.