

MINUTES OF THE SENATE FEDERAL AND STATE AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Pete Brungardt at 10:30 a.m. on March 5, 2008 in Room 526-S of the Capitol.

All members were present.

Committee staff present:

Dennis Hodgins, Kansas Legislative Research Department
Melissa Doebelin, Revisor of Statutes Office
Theresa Kiernan, Revisor of Statutes Office
Connie Burns, Committee Assistant

Conferees appearing before the committee:

Senator Dennis Pyle
Senator Jay Emler
Representative Mario Goico
Brigadier General Deborah Rose, Kansas Air National Guard

Others attending:

See attached list.

SB 328 - Adjutant general; Kansas state defense force

SB 416 - Creating a Kansas emergency response force

Chairman Brungardt opened the hearing on **SB 328 and SB 416**.

Senator Emler appeared as the Chairman of the Joint Committee on Security, and he was the vice chair at the time of the informational hearing on September 26, 2007, on **SB 328**, ultimately **SB 416** came out of that meeting. Appearing at the hearing were various members of the State Guard Association of the United States and State Defense Forces from Georgia, Alabama, Virginia and Texas. Information on how State Defense Forces in those states are funded, organized and their responsibilities. Some of the responsibilities are: shelter management, medical services, volunteer coordination, and Chaplin services. Kansas Statutes allow for a state guard, but not a clear definition of a state guard as it would be different than the National Guard. A conferee from the Attorney General's office had concerns about the bill as did the Adjutant General.

Representative Mario Goico spoke in favor of the bill, that volunteers would assist the guard.

Senator Pyle appeared in support of the bill. (Attachment 1) The bill creates an organized structure whereby volunteers can have advanced preparation and training in order to expedite their involvement in performing emergency response duties. Senator Pyle did request that this topic might be studied during the interim.

Brigadier General Deborah Rose, Director of the Joint Staff, Kansas National Guard, spoke on the bill. (Attachment 2) The bill was a suggestion during the interim that would provide a military force that would augment the National Guard which the Adjutant General believed was unnecessary and extremely costly for the benefits gained. Several states have used a similar model but many more have rejected its use. General Bunting believes that there are many highly qualified and motivated persons within the state who would generously volunteer to be a part of the Kansas Emergency Response Force. Since this would require staffing to organize, recruit equip and train, the Adjutant General's Department will require augmentation of personnel and associated expenses to establish such a force.

Chairman Brungardt closed the hearing on **SB 328 and SB 416**.

Final Action:

SB 577 - Radon awareness law and radon certification program

Staff provided a balloon for the substitute bill with changes proposed by the committee. (Attachment 3) Additional language on fees will be added to Sec. 5.

CONTINUATION SHEET

MINUTES OF THE Senate Federal and State Affairs Committee at 10:30 a.m. on March 5, 2008 in Room 526-S of the Capitol.

Senator Barnett moved to adopt the balloon as amended. Senator Reitz seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Senator Barnett moved to pass **Substitute for SB 577** out favorably as amendment. Senator Lynn seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Also maps on the average Radon levels in the different areas of the state were provided. (Attachment 4)

SB 554 - Brown v. Board of Education mural in the capitol

Staff provided a balloon on the bill. (Attachment 5) The balloon adds a new section c starting on line 21.

Senator Reitz moved to adopt the balloon and to pass **SB 554** out favorably as amended.. Senator Lynn seconded the motion. The motion carried.

SB 544 - Fireless cigarettes; distribution and sale of

Staff provided a balloon on the bill. (Attachment 6)

The committee questioned the New York reference on page 9 Sec. 13, and why Kansas doesn't just adopt the model act. The reference is that New York has sent the precedence as the delegation of authority. Would it be possible to set a date in the future. Pat Broxterman, from the Attorney General's Office, provided information on the New York reference.

The committee deferred action on the bill to a later date.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:45 am. The next scheduled meeting is March 6, 2008.