

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE COMMERCE AND LABOR COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Steve Brunk at 9:00 a.m. on February 10, 2009, in Room 784 of the Docking State Office Building.

All members were present except:

Representative Louis Ruiz- excused

Committee staff present:

Renaë Jefferies, Office of the Revisor of Statutes  
Daniel Yoza, Office of the Revisor of Statutes  
Jerry Donaldson, Kansas Legislative Research Department  
Dennis Hodgins, Kansas Legislative Research Department  
Stephen Bainum, Committee Assistant

Conferees appearing before the committee:

Eric Stafford, Associated General Contractors  
Representative John Grange

Others attending:

See attached list.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Steve Brunk at 9:00 a.m. He opened the hearing on **HB 2142**.

**HB 2142 - Cities; continuing education requirements for plumbers, electricians and certain mechanical contractors.**

Renaë Jefferies, Assistant Revisor explained the changes being made to the bill (Attachment 1). There were no questions for the Revisor.

Eric Stafford, Associated General Contractors presented written only testimony as a proponent of **HB 2142** (Attachment 2).

Representative John Grange presented his testimony as a proponent of **HB 2142** (Attachment 3). He said that the bill would provide reciprocity between code authority jurisdictions in the acceptance of continuing education credits for mechanical technicians.

Representative Grant asked if there was much difference in the codes in various areas. John said that all areas use the Uniform Mechanical Code or the National Electric Code but that some jurisdictions have specific changes or deletions of those codes.

Greg DeBacker, DeBacker Heating and Air gave verbal only testimony as neutral on **HB 2142**. He recommended that the contractors go to a state license and that Manufacturers be allowed to train.

Representative Brunk mentioned that since the bill says that “other providers” approved by the local governing body may become approved instructors, is there anything preventing them from doing that now.

Representative Worley said that Lennox and other manufacturers provide proprietary training on how to install their particular systems. This may be important to you as an installer but it is not the general knowledge of the codes that is needed.

Tim Ryan, City of Overland Park presented verbal only testimony as an opponent of **HB 2142**. He had an objection to some of the language in the bill that they felt might allow people to come into their area that had no training on the codes.

Representative Brunk asked how many categories there were in the training? Three categories, construction, maintenance and codes? Tim said that they looked at it as three issues as stated.

Representative Grange asked Tim if he had experienced people doing work in his jurisdiction that were unfamiliar with the code and how often did that happen. Tim said yes, about two or three a month.

## CONTINUATION SHEET

Minutes of the House Commerce And Labor Committee at 9:00 a.m. on February 10, 2009, in Room 784 of the Docking State Office Building.

Representative Grange asked how many permits they issued per month. Tim said about 5 to 6,000 per year and these were general purpose permits.

Representative Schwab suggested that they should include ethics training or code enforcement.

Representative Grange asked how they handled unlicensed contractors in their community. Tim said they would be taken to court which has a maximum penalty of \$500 per day.

The Chairman closed the hearing on **HB 2142**.

### **HB 2260 - Amendments to the Kansas home inspectors professional competence and financial responsibility act.**

The Chairman opened the hearing on **HB 2260**. He asked Renae Jefferies to explain the changes to the bill. She said she was following a Balloon Amendment requested by Jeff Barnes that was not available yet. In it on page 1 he wanted to strike lines 16 thru 42 which deal with finger printing. Then on page 3 strike lines 11 thru 13. On page 4, line 28 after the word "position" to add the words, "The chairperson must be a registered home inspector." On page 6 to strike lines 25 thru 28. On page 8, after the word "board" to insert "unless the applicant has been actively engaged as a home inspector as defined in K.S.A. 2008 Supp. 58-4502, and amendments thereto, and met the requirements of clause (i) or clause (ii) of subparagraph (B) of paragraph 7 of subsection (c) of this section." On page 9, line 33 to strike the words "for compensation." On page 10 to replace the language of section (p).

Representative Bethell asked about combining **HB 2067** and **HB 2260**. Due to the cost of running a bill and getting it signed do we need both? As long as it is in this bill why don't we combine them.

The Chairman explained why it had been split into two bills. We really needed to do that so that the Secretary of State would not be responsible for maintaining the files of the Board. At that time we did not know if the other bill would be brought forward or not. He agreed that they should be combined.

The Chairman closed the hearing on **HB 2260**.

The next meeting is scheduled for February 11, 2009.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:05 a.m.