

Approved: 01/31/12  
Date

MINUTES OF SENATE AGRICULTURE COMMITTEE  
JOINT WITH SENATE NATURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE AND  
HOUSE AGRICULTURE AND NATURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE

The joint meeting was called to order by Chairman of the House Agriculture and Natural Resources Committee, Representative Powell, at 8:30 a.m. on January 11, 2012, in Room 783, Docking State Office Building.

All members were present except:  
Senator Steve Morris- excused

Committee staff present:  
David Wiese, Office of the Revisor of Statutes  
Jason Thompson, Office of the Revisor of Statutes  
Abigail Boudewyns, Kansas Legislative Research Department  
Judy Seitz, Committee Assistant

Conferees appearing before the Committee:  
Congressman Tim Huelskamp, Representative District 1

Others attending:  
See attached list.

### **Introduction of Bills**

Chris Wilson, Kansas Department of Agriculture, requested the introduction of a bill regarding Multi-Year Flex Account provisions, to allow greater flexibility and options for producers, a bill updating the Meat and Poultry Act to keep Kansas consistent for the purpose of FSIS equal to status and a bill with revisions to the Animal Health statutes, K.S.A. Chapter 47.

Senator Teichman moved that the request for these three bills should be introduced as committee bills. Senator Ostmeyer seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Congressman Huelskamp reported that this is a year for a new farm bill. He is one of only about a dozen representatives who have an agriculture background so there are many Representatives who need to be educated as to the rural life. He serves on the Agriculture Committee. He said that the passing of three (3) trade agreements with Columbia, Korea and Panama was positive and Kansas will be a winner in terms of who will do well with this agreement. Congressman Huelskamp noted that one of the critical issues is developing an effective federal crop insurance plan. He introduced a farm act which would reduce the regulations coming out of D.C. He said the proposed federal regulations restricting child laborers on farms would affect farmers. Another issue is a proposal to regulate agriculture dust as an air pollutant. He said some good news is that people are moving back to Kansas.

Congressman Huelskamp took questions from the Committee.

The next meeting is scheduled for January 17, 2012. The meeting was adjourned at 9:30 a.m.

