

Approved: August 25, 2011  
(Date)

## MINUTES OF THE SENATE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE

The Chairman called the meeting to order at 9:33 A.M. on January 24, 2011, in Room 548-S of the Capitol.

All members were present, except Senators Kelly and Schodorf, who were excused.

### Committee staff present:

Lauren Douglass, Kansas Legislative Research Department  
Jason Thompson, Office of Revisor of Statutes  
Tamera Lawrence, Office of Revisor of Statutes  
Theresa Kiernan, Committee Assistant

### Conferees appearing before the committee:

Judge Peter Juras, Greek Orthodox Archdiocese Christians  
Nancy Strouse, Executive Director of the Kansas Judicial Council  
Ronald Nelson, Kansas Judicial Council, Family Law Advisory Committee  
Bill McKean

### Others attending:

See attached list.

### Bill Introductions:

Senator Tom Holland requested introduction of a bill concerning harassment by texting.

Tom Witt, Kansas Equality Coalition, requested introduction of a bill concerning criminal sodomy.

Chairman Owens reminded the members of the committee and the audience that any video recording of committee meetings is prohibited unless the prior approval of the Chairman is obtained.

The Chairman opened the hearings on **SR 1807 -- Urging the Government of Turkey to respect the Ecumenical Patriarchate and to uphold religious rights.**

Senator Owens, sponsor of **SR 1807** spoke in favor of the resolution and stated the Resolution is similar in nature to prior legislation relating to the support of religious freedom in Egypt. He urged the committee to approve the resolution.

Peter Juras testified in support of SR 1807 and urged the committee to adopt the resolution (Attachment 1). He stated that the U.S. Senate and U.S. House of Representatives as well as 32 other states have adopted similar resolutions. Mr. Juras made available exhibits in support of his testimony.

There was no testimony in opposition to **SR 1807**.

The Chairman closed the hearings on **SR 1807**.

The Chairman opened the hearings on **SB 9 — Code of civil procedure; updates and technical amendments.**

Jason Thompson, Staff Revisor, reviewed the bill.

Nancy Strouse testified in support of **SB 9** (Attachment 2). She stated that the bill is a follow-up bill to 2010 HB 2656 which attempted to conform state law to recent federal amendments and style changes. The bill also contains technical amendments and a few revisions that were missed in 2010 HB 2656.

CONTINUATION SHEET

MINUTES OF THE Senate Judiciary Committee at 9:33 A.M. on January 24, 2011, in Room 548-S of the Capitol.

Senator King asked if there had been any effort to coordinate the Supreme Court rules relating to appellate procedure? Ms. Strouse stated that she thought that might possibly occur next year.

There was no testimony in opposition to **SB 9**.

The Chairman called the committee's attention to the fiscal note for **SB 9**.

The Chairman closed the hearings on **SB 9**.

The Chairman opened the hearings on **SB 24 — Reorganization of domestic relations statutes**.

Jason Thompson, Staff Revisor, reviewed the bill.

Ronald Nelson testified in support of **SB 24**. He stated that the bill is a reorganization of current law and makes no substantive changes. The bill repeals certain provisions in current law covered by uniform laws that have been enacted by the state. He noted that it had been 30 years since the last recodification of the law (Attachment 3).

Written testimony in support of **SB 24** was submitted by Joe Molina, Kansas Bar Association (Attachment 4) and by Keven M.P. O'Grady, family law attorney, Chairman of Johnson County Bar Association Family Law Bench Bar Committee and member of Johnson County Family Law Section (Attachment 5).

Bill McKean testified in opposition to **SB 24** (Attachment 6). He expressed his concern on a provision in law relating to court-ordered counseling and the inclusion of the cost of the counseling as a portion of the cost of the case. He also stated that there is no accountability by the Behavioral Sciences Regulatory Board over persons providing court-ordered counseling. Mr. McKean made available information referenced in his testimony.

The Chairman asked the conferee to limit his testimony to the provisions of **SB 24**.

The Chairman called the committee's attention to the fiscal note for **SB 24**.

The Chairman closed the hearings on **SB 24**.

Meeting adjourned at 10:05 A.M. The next meeting is scheduled for January 25, 2011.