

MINUTES OF THE SENATE WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Dwayne Umbarger at 10:35 A.M. on March 22, 2007, in Room 123-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except:

Senator Carolyn McGinn- excused

Committee staff present:

Jill Wolters, Senior Assistant, Revisor of Statutes
Alan Conroy, Director, Kansas Legislative Research Department
J. G. Scott, Kansas Legislative Research Department
Amy Deckard, Kansas Legislative Research Department
Audrey Dunkel, Kansas Legislative Research Department
Becky Krahl, Kansas Legislative Research Department
Michael Steiner, Kansas Legislative Research Department
Melinda Gaul, Chief of Staff, Senate Ways & Means
Mary Shaw, Committee Assistant

Conferees appearing before the committee:

George Teagarden, Livestock Commissioner, Kansas Animal Health Department
Susan Duffy, Executive Director, Kansas Corporation Commission
Martin Kennedy, Commissioner of Licensure, Certification & Evaluation, Kansas Dept. on Aging
John Dougherty, Emporia State University (written)
Susan Peterson, Kansas State University (written)

Others attending:

See attached list.

Bill Introductions

Senator Kelly moved, with a second by Senator Wysong, to introduce a conceptual bill regarding affiliation with Kansas police and firemen's retirement system by attorney general for certain agents and investigators (7rs1353). Motion carried on a voice vote.

Senator Emler moved, with a second by Senator Schodorf, to introduce a bill regarding cancellation of certain uncollected property taxes in Johnson county(7rs1359). Motion carried on a voice vote. Senator Dennis Wilson requested introduction of the bill.

Senator Steineger moved, with a second by Senator Emler, to introduce a bill concerning taxing authority and creation of regents county education authority (7rs1361). Motion carried on a voice vote. Senator Derek Schmidt requested introduction of the bill.

Chairman Umbarger opened the public hearing on:

SB 381--Livestock commissioner accepting donated funds to protect the health of domestic animals, creating the animal health protection fund

Staff briefed the committee on the bill.

The Chairman recognized George Teagarden, Livestock Commissioner, Kansas Animal Health Department, who testified in support of **SB 381 (Attachment 1)**. Commissioner Teagarden explained that the bill creates the "animal protection fund" and authorizes the livestock commissioner to accept grants, donations or gifts to assist in the protection of the health of domestic animals. He noted that the intended use of the funds would be to test feral swine for diseases that are endemic or emerging in the Kansas swine industry.

There being no further conferees to appear before the Committee, the Chairman closed the public hearing on

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SB 381.

Senator Steineger moved, with a second by Senator Kelly, to recommend **SB 381** favorable for passage. Motion carried on a roll call vote.

Chairman Umbarger opened the public hearing on:

HB 2491--Increasing transfer of certain balances in the motor carrier license fees fund to the state highway fund

Staff briefed the committee on the bill.

The Chairman welcomed Susan Duffy, Executive Director, Kansas Corporation Commission, who testified in support of **HB 2491** (Attachment 2). Commissioner Duffy explained that the bill amends KSA 66-1,142, because the July 2 transfer from the KCC Motor Carrier Fund to the State Highway Fund affects the KCC cash balance as year-end close activities are not finished processing until the second week of July, and the funds used to pay these obligations are swept by Accounts and Reports before payments are made. Also the current balance of \$400,000 needs to be increased to \$700,000 in order for the KCC to retain sufficient revenue to cover program expenditures throughout the year. Attached to Ms. Duffy's written testimony is a letter from Deb Miller, Secretary, Kansas Department of Transportation, supporting the introduction of **HB 2491**.

There being no further conferees to appear before the Committee, the Chairman closed the public hearing on **HB 2491**.

Chairman Umbarger opened the public hearing on:

HB 2535--Department on aging, license fees for adult care homes, state licensure fee fund

Staff briefed the committee on the bill.

The Chairman welcomed Martin Kennedy, Commissioner of Licensure, Certification and Evaluation, Kansas Department on Aging, who testified in support of **HB 2535** (Attachment 3). Mr. Kennedy mentioned that the bill is needed to provide a source of funding for adult care home survey and certification activities in the Licensure, Certification and Evaluation (LCE) Commission at the Kansas Department on Aging. He noted that without additional funds, the program will be unable to meet its statutory and contractual obligations for FY 2007 and FY 2008.

There being no further conferees to come before the Committee, the Chairman closed the public hearing on **HB 2535**.

Chairman Umbarger opened the public hearing on:

HB 2539--State Board of Regents, conveyance of certain real estate of Emporia state university and Kansas state university, disposition of proceeds

Staff briefed the committee on the bill.

Written testimony was submitted by:

John Dougherty on behalf of Emporia State University (Attachment 4)
Sue Peterson on behalf of Kansas State University (Attachment 5)

There were committee questions and Mr. Dougherty and Ms. Peterson were available for the questions.

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There being no further conferees to appear before the Committee, the Chairman closed the public hearing on **HB 2539**.

The Revisor noted a technical correction that was needed on page 6, line 43 of the **HB 2539**. Senator Teichman moved, with a second by Senator Kelly, to amend **HB 2539** regarding the technical correction. Motion carried on a voice vote.

Senator Morris moved, with a second by Senator Teichman, to recommend **HB 2539** favorable for passage as amended. Motion carried on a voice vote.

The meeting adjourned at 11:25 a.m. The next meeting is scheduled for March 23, 2007.