

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON VETERANS, MILITARY AND HOMELAND
SECURITY

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Don Myers at 1:30 P.M. on February 14, 2007 in Room 241-N of the Capitol.

All members were present except:
Representative Bob Bethell- excused

Committee staff present:
Art Griggs, Revisor of Statutes Office
Athena Andaya, Kansas Legislative Research
Heather O'Hara, Kansas Legislative Research
Betty Caruthers, Committee Assistant

Conferees appearing before the committee:
Secretary Joan Wagon, Secretary of Revenue
Carmen Alldritt, Director, Division of Vehicles

Others attending:
See attached list.

Chairman Myers called the meeting to order and opened hearings on **HB 2390 - REAL ID; drivers' licenses and identification cards.**

Chairman Myers recognized Secretary Wagon for testimony as a proponent on the bill who in turn requested that Carmen Alldritt present testimony followed by them both standing for questions from the Committee.

Chairman Myers recognized Carmen Alldritt for testimony as a proponent. (Attachment 1) The importance of a drivers' license or identification card these days was stressed with the Department of Revenue having the tremendous job of developing processes with regards to issuance, security, and fraud prevention with these documents. With the exception of some sections of this bill, a number of items actually mirror what the federal requirements of the REAL ID Act look like. A big intent of this bill is to assist in fraud prevention and protection of individual identifications.

Chairman Myers pointed out the written only testimony received from Melinda Lewis, Director of Policy Advocacy and Research, El Centro, Inc. in opposition to the bill. (Attachment 2)

Chairman Myers asked about someone who cannot provide a valid social security number that they must provide evidence from the social security administration as to their ineligibility. Carmen stated that they may need to change that in this bill. Questions were asked regarding the date that the bill would take effect which was 3/1/08. Carmen noted that they could request an extension if need be for the REAL ID requirements to be in place. They see this as a "readiness" bill. They cannot enact certain new things of the driver's license laws until after the REAL ID Act goes into effect March 1, 2008. There was mention of changing the date of this bill and it going into effect July 1, 2007 due to statute books.

Representative Goyle expressed concerns about how Kansas cannot move forward on their own since the whole point of REAL ID is a network between states and Federally mandated. He was concerned about putting something in place now which may be harder to change later. There were a number of concerns noted around New Sec. 1. (f) which deals with disclosing information and not knowing what this will look like in the REAL ID Act. Secretary Wagon made mention of the possibility of pulling this section out of the bill and Representative Goico asked about the possibility of making this section a new bill.

Secretary Wagon stated that there are parts of the bill which need to get going now and other parts which they could wait on. She offered to bring to the Committee tomorrow a list of what they are currently doing and a list of things they cannot do now in order to help visualize what needs to go into effect now and where concerns are.

Representative Goico requested the possibility of a balloon with no reference to REAL ID.

CONTINUATION SHEET

MINUTES OF THE House Committee on Veterans, Military and Homeland Security at 1:30 P.M. on February 14, 2007 in Room 241-N of the Capitol.

Chairman Myers stated that the Committee would work the bill tomorrow and requested the above noted lists be brought to the Committee at that time as well as balloons. The Secretary stated they would also bring information regarding a fiscal note if the bill only dealt with what is necessary at the present time.

Chairman Myers announced that tomorrow the Committee would work **HB 2210** followed by **HB 2390**.

Chairman Myers adjourned meeting at 2:45.

Next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, February 15, 2007.