

MINUTES OF THE SENATE ASSESSMENT AND TAXATION COMMITTEE.

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Senator Audrey Langworthy at 2:05 p.m. on February 25, 2000, in Room 519-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except:

Committee staff present: Chris Courtwright, Legislative Research Department
April Holman, Legislative Research Department
Don Hayward, Revisor of Statutes Office
Shirley Higgins, Committee Secretary

Conferees appearing before the committee: Dwight D. Keen
Stephen Richards

Others attending: See attached list.

The minutes of February 21 and 22, 2000, were approved.

Confirmations: Kansas Board of Tax Appeals (KBOTA), Dwight D. Keen and Stephen Richards

Mr. Keen stated that his confirmation would provide him the opportunity to fully utilize his education and experience on behalf of the state and to give something back to the state. He noted that it is important for KBOTA members to be constantly vigilant in recognizing that real consequences ensue from their deliberations in every case. If confirmed, he would be dedicated to rendering impartial justice in resolving disputes between taxpayers and the taxing authorities. (Attachment 1) Mr. Keen also distributed copies of his resume and briefly reviewed his education, employment history, military service, and bar memberships. (Attachment 2) Senator Langworthy noted that Committee members had been given a copy of Mr. Keen's confirmation information summary prepared and submitted by the Office of Governor Bill Graves. (Attachment 3)

Mr. Richards informed the Committee that he holds an accounting degree from the University of Kansas and that he is a Certified Public accountant. He noted that he spent 17 years managing tax compliance and research for Yellow Freight System. He believes KBOTA is responsible to taxpayers for timely and fair treatment of their appeals. In his opinion, KBOTA should provide consistent and clear interpretation of the statutes, not legislate change. He feels that a position on the Board would give him a opportunity to use his tax background in serving Kansas and that his experience would provide a perspective beneficial to KBOTA and to Kansas taxpayers. (Attachment 4) As in Mr. Keen's case, Committee members had been given a copy of Mr. Richards' confirmation information summary prepared and submitted by the Office of Governor Bill Graves. (Attachment 5)

Senator Bond moved to recommend Dwight Keen and Stephen Richards favorably, seconded by Senator Goodwin. The motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:25 p.m.

The next meeting is scheduled for February 29, 2000.