Journal of the House

THIRTY-FIFTH DAY

Hall of the House of Representatives, Topeka, KS, Thursday, March 1, 2012, 11:00 a.m.

The House met pursuant to adjournment with Speaker O'Neal in the chair.

The roll was called with 118 members present.

Reps. LeDoux and B. Wolf were excused on verified illness.

Rep. Goico was excused on legislative business.

Reps. Bollier, Brookens, Burgess and Peterson were excused on excused absence by the Speaker.

Prayer by guest chaplain, CH (COL) Lawrence Dennis, Fort Riley:

Almighty God,

I thank you for this day and the opening of another legislative session. Thank you for the great state of Kansas and our Nation, both built on the preserving faith and commitment of its people. You have blessed Service Members and their Families through the faithful support of this State's Citizens.

I pray for the people of Harveyville and other tornado victims. Bless them with renewed strength as they mourn and begin rebuilding.

I pray these legislators will have open hearts and minds to the issues facing their state. Give them courage and wisdom to act in ways to fulfill their elected mission.

May your blessings be evermore evident to Kansans today and to the rest of America.

In your Holy Name I pray. Amen.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Rep. Osterman.

Kansas Trivia Question – What Civil War general, whose last words were supposedly "they couldn't hit an elephant from this distance," met his end at the Battle of Spotsylvania and has a Kansas county named after him?

Answer: Major General John Sedgwick

PERSONAL PRIVILEGE

There being no objection, the following remarks of Rep. Meier are spread upon the Journal:

In his speech announcing the formation of Armed Forces Day, President Truman praised the work of the military services at home and across the seas. He said each branch is "vital to the security of the nation and to the establishment of a desirable peace."

Armed Forces Day was created in 1949 following the consolidation of the military services in the Department of Defense to honor Americans serving in the five U.S. military branches – the Army, Navy, Marines, Air Force, and Coast Guard. This morning, our Governor has signed a proclamation designating today, Thursday, March 1st, 2012, as Kansas Armed Forces Appreciation Day.

Today, 63 years after the formation of the Department of Defense and the first Armed Forces Day, the United States military service members are standing ever vigilant at their posts around the world to keep us safe. The military of the United States is deployed in more than 150 countries and they are working here at home to protect America from threats foreign and domestic. They are risking their lives in the mountains of Afghanistan. They are serving bravely providing security and peacekeeping missions in places like Djibouti, Kenya, Kosovo and the Sinai. They provide humanitarian assistance where the world, our nation, and Kansas have dire need. The Members of our Armed Forces are forging a better future for our Nation and the world.

Today, the National Guard and Reserve not only continue their support to emergencies at home and to active duty units that deploy, but are also deployed themselves. Kansas guardsmen and women make the extra sacrifice of leaving their full time jobs to deploy and their families are not afforded the support that military families on an active duty post receive.

This brings me to another group which deserves special thanks—the spouses of our service members, spouses who take care of the families and raise the children while their service members are at sea or stationed far away, and spouses who have left our shores to be in a faraway land with their service members. As the members of our all volunteer force carry out their missions, their families make their own sacrifices. Military families make a vital contribution to our nation in the support they give to our men and women in uniform. If they were unwilling to endure the absences, the moves between duty stations, and the worry, our service members would not be able to give their full attention to their missions.

The Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen, Marines, and Coastguardsmen who have answered the call to service deserve recognition and gratitude. They have endured the most difficult of conditions to protect America and her highest ideals.

I invite any Representative who has ever served in our Armed Forces to stand and any Representative who is a spouse of someone who served to stand.

Please join me on this special day -- Armed Forces Appreciation Day - and say thank you to those great Americans who proudly serve this great nation by volunteering to serve in our military!

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND CONCURRENT RESOLUTIONS

The following bill was introduced and read by title:

HB 2768, AN ACT making and concerning appropriations for the fiscal years ending June 30, 2012, June 20, 2013, and June 30, 2014, for state agencies; authorizing certain transfers, capital improvement projects and fees, imposing certain restrictions and limitations, and directing or authorizing certain receipts, disbursements and acts incidental to the foregoing, by Committee on Appropriations.

REFERENCE OF BILLS AND CONCURRENT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills were referred to committees as indicated:

Agriculture and Natural Resources: Sub SB 148; SB 302, SB 310, SB 357, SB 375. Appropriations: SB 425. Commerce and Economic Development: SB 301, SB 416.

Corrections and Juvenile Justice: SB 39, SB 394.

Education: SB 69: Sub SB 393.

Energy and Utilities: SB 384, SB 406, SB 419.

Federal and State Affairs: SB 269, SB 276, SB 277, SB 288, SB 358, SB 387.

Financial Institutions: Sub SB 64; SB 287, SB 315, SB 345, SB 372.

General Government Budget: SB 417.

Health and Human Services: SB 326, SB 407.

Insurance: SB 273

Judiciary: SB 262; Sub SB 282; Sub SB 283; SB 304, SB 322, SB 330, SB 366, SB 367, SB 422, SB 424.

Transportation: SB 342.

CHANGE OF REFERENCE

Speaker O'Neal announced the withdrawal of HB 2018 from Committee on Appropriations and rereferral to Committee on Education.

Also, the withdrawal of HB 2425 from Committee on Appropriations and rereferral to Committee on Elections.

Also, the withdrawal of HB 2457, HB 2573, HB 2633 from Committee on Appropriations and rereferral to Committee on Health and Human Services.

Also, the withdrawal of HB 2497, HB 2602 from Committee on Appropriations and rereferral to Committee on Corrections and Juvenile Justice.

Also, the withdrawal of HB 2634 from Committee on Education Budget and rereferral to Committee on Education.

Also, the withdrawal of HB 2767 from Committee on Taxation and referral to Committee on Education Budget.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM STATE OFFICERS

From Mike Michael, Director, State Employee Health Benefit Plans, Division of Health Care Finance, Kansas Department of Health and Environment, in compliance with 2010 S Sub for HB 2160, Kansas State Employees Health Care Commission Report relating to Autism Spectrum Disorder.

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The complete report is kept on file and open for inspection in the office of the Chief Clerk.

On motion of Rep. Siegfreid, the House adjourned until 11:00 a.m., Friday, March 2, 2012.

CHARLENE SWANSON, Journal Clerk.

SUSAN W. KANNARR, Chief Clerk.