

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TOURISM COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Lana Gordon at 3:30 P.M. on March 25, 2008 in Room 519-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except:

Don Hill- excused
Judy Morrison- excused

Committee staff present:

Ryan Hoffman, Kansas Legislative Research Department
Jason Long, Office of the Revisor of Statutes
Matt Todd, Office of the Revisor of Statutes
Ann Deitcher, Committee Assistant

Conferees appearing before the committee:

Representative Anthony Brown
Senator Julia Lynn
Bob Burkhart, Kaw Valley Heritage Alliance
Alan Caldwell, Overland Park, Ks
Pat Guilfoyle, City Administrator, DeSoto, Ks
Matthew Todd, Office of the Review of Statutes

SB 518 - enacting the DeSoto/Johnson County Riverfront Authority Act.

The Chair introduced Matthew Todd who explained **SB 518** to the Committee. (Attachment 1).

Senator Lynn addressed the Committee in support of **SB 518**, (Attachment 2).

Saying that DeSoto Riverfront Authority, if passed and implemented, would provide an impetus not only for DeSoto, but for all the other counties too, Senator Lynn pointed out that DeSoto is on the verge of great discovery and it is the will of the community to protect its hometown flavor and family focus.

Questions and answers followed.

Testifying next in favor of **SB 518**, Representative Brown spoke of the advantages in its passage. (Attachment 3).

Telling the Committee that it would establish a DeSoto Riverfront Authority, garner investment in the community, establish rules for governing, be a boost for local economy, Representative Brown said that it was fully supported by DeSoto Mayor Dave Anderson.

Questions and answers followed.

Pat Guilfoyle presented the written testimony of Mayor David Anderson and spoke of the struggles of their city as well as others of it's size, in attracting people to come and visit. (Attachment 4).

Saying that DeSoto was the only city in Johnson County with its' downtown on the Kansas River, he told of the true potential of this "beautiful natural asset".

CONTINUATION SHEET

MINUTES OF THE House Economic Development and Tourism Committee at 3:30 P.M. on March 25, 2008 in Room 519-S of the Capitol.

Asked why authority of the Legislature was needed for this project, Jason Long said that it would provide the opportunity for government grants to be searched out.

Bob Burkhart thanked the Committee for the opportunity to discuss **SB 518** and its challenges. (Attachment 5).

Saying that the subject was anchoring sustainable Kaw Valley GeoVenturing-LNTourism framework, Mr. Burkhart said that their objectives were to achieve and maintain exceptional water quality standards within this riverfront authority corridor.

Next on the agenda, Alan Caldwell spoke in support of **SB 518** saying that the five miles of river frontage within the city limits of DeSoto was one of the most beautiful segment of the river. (Attachment 6).

Mr. Caldwell said that with DeSoto's proximity to major population centers, the physical characteristics of the river and it's environs make it an ideal site for riverfront development. He added that if it was properly designed and promoted it could truly be an economic engine not only for DeSoto and Johnson County but for Leavenworth County as well.

The hearing was closed on **SB 518**.

SB 501 - creating the Kansas tourism corporation and providing for the powers and duties thereof; transferring the powers and duties of the division of travel and tourism development to the Kansas tourism corporation.

A motion was made by Representative Tietze and seconded by Representative Craft to refer SB 501 to an interim committee for study.

Representative Huntington made the motion that the referral be made to a special committee for study and not a joint committee. The motion was seconded by Representative Swanson.

Jason Long explained that the original motion by Representative Tietze could be changed to include the word "special".

Representatives Huntington and Swanson withdrew their motion.

Representative Tietze changed her motion to include the word "special". Representative Craft seconded the motion which passed on a voice vote.

SB 363 - concerning the rural housing incentive act.

Ryan Hoffman and Matthew Todd explained **SB 363**, saying there were a few technical amendments to be made to the bill.

A motion was made by Representative Olson and seconded by Representative Treaster that SB 363 be passed out favorably as amended. The motion was seconded by Representative Treaster and passed on a voice vote.

CONTINUATION SHEET

MINUTES OF THE House Economic Development and Tourism Committee at 3:30 P.M. on March 25, 2008 in Room 519-S of the Capitol.

HB 2843 - concerning the Kansas professional regulated sports act; pertaining to violations, civil penalties, fees, rules and regulations.

Matthew Todd explained **HB 2843**.

Representative Olson referred to page 5, line 32 of **HB 2843**, and requested the sunset be put back in at 2012. He also requested that previously stricken lines, 33 and 34 be reinstated.

A motion was made by Representative Olson to pass **HB 2843** as amended. The motion was seconded by Representative Treaster and passed on a voice vote.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:10 p.m. No future meetings are planned at this time.