

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE AGRICULTURE & NATURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Larry Powell at 9:00 a.m. on February 21, 2011, in Room 783 in the Docking State Office Building.

All members were present except:

Representative Elaine Bowers - Excused
Representative Rocky Fund - Excused
Representative Charlotte O'Hara - Excused
Representative Michael Peterson - Excused

Committee staff present:

Sean Ostrow, Office of the Revisor of Statutes
Raney Gilliland, Kansas Legislative Research Department
Michael Wales, Kansas Legislative Research Department
Kay Scarlett, Committee Assistant

Conferees appearing before the Committee:

Others attending:

See attached list.

Discussion and action on HB 2271 – Amending provisions relating to plant pest inspection and regulation.

Chairman Powell opened **HB 2271** for discussion. Sean Ostrow, Office of the Revisor of Statutes, explained a balloon amendment worked on by the the Kansas Department of Agriculture and stakeholders after the hearing on the bill. Many of the proposed changes are clarifying language and technical clean up. Page 7, lines 45 and 46, and page 8, lines 1 – 7, of the balloon removes the felony penalty provision from the bill making a violation a misdemeanor as in current law. It was noted that the proposed change on page 5, line 17, of the balloon should be the “plant pest emergency response fund, not the “plant protection fee fund.” (Attachment 1) Representative Hayzlett moved to adopt the balloon amendment as presented. Seconded by Representative Brookens, the motion carried.

Representative Brookens moved to recommend HB 2271, as amended, favorably for passage. The motion was seconded by Representative Hayzlett. Discussion ensued.

Representative Brookens moved to amend the balloon on page 4, line 34, to put a period after hour; strike “not including exclusive” and insert ”Any”; and on page 4, line 35, strike “,which shall” and insert “may” and strike “an” and insert “and” Seconded by Representative Williams, the motion carried.

Representative Grant moved to amend the balloon on page 8, line 3, to change the maximum penalty from \$5,000 back to current law of \$1,000 per violation. The motion was seconded by Representative Brookens. After much discussion and noting that this amount was increased as a deterrent to commission of a violation, Representative Grant, with Representative Brookens consent, moved to change the maximum penalty to \$2,000. Motion carried.

Representative Brookens moved to recommend HB 2271, as amended, favorably for passage in the form of House Substitute for HB 2271. The motion was seconded by Representative Grant. The motion passed.

Subcommittee appointed on HB 2295 – Amending state hunting laws and regulations relating to hunting seasons, permits and the use of bows.

Chairman Powell appointed a subcommittee to work with the Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks and others on **HB 2295**: Representative Willie Prescott, Chairman; Representative Kyle Hoffman; and Representative Jerry Williams.

The meeting adjourned at 9:35 a.m. The next meeting of the House Agriculture & Natural Resources Committee is scheduled for March 3, 2011.