

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE GOVERNMENT EFFICIENCY COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Representative Mike Burgess, Chair, at 3:30 p.m., February 21, 2011 in Room 546-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except:

Representative Rocky Fund - Excused  
Representative Judith Loganbill - Excused  
Representative Kay Wolf - Excused

Committee staff present:

Julian Efird, Legislative Research  
Iraida Orr, Legislative Research  
Katherine McBride, Revisor of Statutes  
Rena Jefferies, Revisor of Statutes  
Linda Herrick, Committee Assistant

Others attending:

Kraig Knowlton, Human Resources  
A. J. Kotich, Legal Counsel, Dept. of Administration  
Dennis Taylor, Secretary of Administration  
R. J. Wilson, Kansas Organization of State Employees

The Chair called upon Katherine McBride to give an overview on **HB 2221 - Relating to the employee award program**. This is a continuation of the hearing from last Thursday because of the request from a committee member to examine 2010 SB 294 and incorporate its whistle blower verbiage. Ms McBride explained that the substitute for this bill is proposed in 11rs1001, which is the the way the bill was introduced in this committee. This substitute bill, 11rs1001, was provided as an alternative to HB 2221; the language was cleaned up so that only language actually changed was reflected in the bill instead of unnecessarily striking and adding language. Another substitute, 11rs0999, incorporates the whistle blower act, similar to 2010 SB 294. Both bills contain the language relating to the employee award program. The committee discussed the whistle blower language in Substitute Bill 11rs0999. Secretary Taylor noted this verbiage could have some unintended consequences. Further discussion was held with Secretary Taylor, Mr. Kotich, Mr. Wilson, and Mr. Knowlton. The Chair closed the hearing.

Representative DeGraaf made a motion to Substitute for HB 2221, 11rs0999, which included the whistle blower act, and Representative Johnson seconded the motion. Representative Roth asked to be noted in the minutes that he would be a vote of no. The committee members conveyed that they wish to have employees offer suggestions for efficiencies and savings for state agency operations without retaliation from the agency. After further discussion with Secretary Taylor, Representative DeGraaf withdrew his previous motion and made a motion to adopt the language in Substitute for HB 2221, 11rs1001. Representative Roth seconded and the Committee voted to approve the motion. Attention was given to the specific wording of this bill regarding the calculation of savings. Representative Trimmer made a motion to amend the bill, and Representative Ruiz seconded the motion in favor of the revised wording. The committee voted to approve the motion. Representative DeGraaf moved to recommend favorable passage of this bill as amended, Representative Howell seconded, and the committee voted to approve the motion.

The Chair then called attention for action on **HB 2120 – Kansas government effectiveness and efficiency commission act**, which was discussed last Monday. Ms. McBride presented two amendments which excluded specific fee funded state agencies. This was requested by the neutral and opponent testifying on this bill. A three-year sunset was also added to the bill. Representative Grange made a motion to accept the amendments, seconded by Representative DeGraaf, and the committee voted to approve the motion. Representative Grange then made a motion for favorable passage of the bill as amended, which was seconded by Representative Hoffman. The committee voted to approve the motion.

The next business before the committee was action on **HB 2194 – Creating the council on efficient government; requirements concerning state contractors**, which was heard last Wednesday. Ms. Jefferies presented an amendment with two technical changes and a name change for the bill to Kansas Advisory Council on Privatization and Public-Private Partnerships. This change would help differentiate the bill from others with similar titles. Representative DeGraaf made a motion to pass the

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bill as amended, seconded by Representative Howell, and the committee voted to approve the motion. Representative Trimmer then asked to amend the bill to exempt agencies that do not receive state appropriations, state general funds, or federal funds appropriated by the state. It was seconded by Representative Grange, and the committee voted to approve the motion. This was requested by the neutral party testifying on this bill. Representative Grange made a motion to add a three-year sunset to this bill from the date of its inception, seconded by Representative Trimmer, and the committee voted to pass the motion. Representative Grange then made a motion for favorable passage of **HB 2194 – Kansas Advisory Council on Privatization and Public-Private Partnerships** as amended, seconded by Representative Meigs, and the motion was approved by the committee with Representative Trimmer asking for a recorded vote of no.

The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, March 3, 2011.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:31 p.m.