

MINUTES OF THE SENATE ELECTIONS AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE.

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Barbara P. Allen at 1:30 p.m. on January 30, 2001 in Room 245-N of the Capitol.

All members were present except: Senator Huelskamp - excused

Committee staff present: Mike Heim, Kansas Legislative Research Department  
Dennis Hodgins, Kansas Legislative Research Department  
Ken Wilke, Office of the Revisor of Statutes  
Nancy Kirkwood, Committee Secretary

Conferees appearing before the committee:  
Senator Praeger  
Senator Jenkins  
Brad Bryant, Deputy Assistant Secretary of State  
Justin Holstin, Kansas University Law Student  
Elizabeth Ensley, Shawnee County Election Commissioner

Others attending: See attached list.

Hearing on:

**SB 125 - technical clean up amendments to election laws**

Brad Bryant, Deputy Assistant Secretary of State, appeared before the committee in support of **SB125**. This bill was proposed by the Secretary of State's office as a technical clean up bill for elections. The bill has six provisions (Attachment 1).

**SB 102 - election crimes; intimidation of voters**

Senator Praeger testified before the committee in support of **SB102**. One of her districts received calls informing the voters they would need to show their voter cards in order to vote. With this legislation, you may not publish, telephone, fax or use any other means to try to prevent a person from casting a ballot or returning a voting ballot; that would be a violation. People should feel free to vote and should be encouraged to vote. (No written testimony).

Senator Jenkins submitted written testimony in support of **SB102** (Attachment 2).

Justin Holstin, Kansas University Law Student, representing fellow students appeared in support of **SB102** (Attachment 3).

Ken Wilke, Revisor of Statutes gave an explanation comparing **SB102** and **SB128**. **SB102** refers to intimidation under the existing law. Intimidation deals with coercion or taking other action to get someone to vote or not to vote. **SB128** would also make changes in election crime in the state

Brad Bryant, Deputy Assistant Secretary of State, gave a brief statement in support of **SB102** (Attachment 4).

There being no others wishing to testify on **SB102** the hearing was closed.

**SB127 -relating to election procedures**

## CONTINUATION SHEET

Dennis Hodgins, Legislative Research Department, gave an overview of **SB127**, allowing the county election officer to remove a person from the voting list if the person has not voted in two consecutive general elections, and that person has been notified of the move from the county election officer, and all registered voters would have their address concealed from the records for the voters safety.

Ken Wilke, Revisor of Statutes, supplied the copies of the relevant portions of the open records act that would allow this exemption. He explained the portions of the open record act that would pertain to **SB127**, relating to person's residence address be concealed from public inspection on the voter registration list.

Brad Bryant, Deputy Assistant Secretary of State, testified in support of **SB127** (Attachment 5). Brad offered an amendment to **SB127**, allowing election officers to use lists of deceased persons available from the Social Security Administration to delete such persons' names from the voter registration database (Attachment 6).

Elizabeth Ensley, Shawnee County Election Commissioner, testified in support of **SB127** stating 21% of persons on our voting list are not returning their ballots, possibly for reasons of health. Mailing to people who do not have the ability to vote becomes expensive and increases the risk of fraud.(Attachment 7).

There being no others wishing to testify on **SB127** the hearing was closed.

The meeting adjourned at 2:30 p.m.

The next meeting is scheduled for January 31, 2001.