

MINUTES OF THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS.

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Stephen Morris at 10:40 a.m. on February 17, 2003, in Room 123-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except: Senator Christine Downey - excused

Committee staff present:

Martha Dorsey, Kansas Legislative Research Department
Melissa Calderwood, Kansas Legislative Research Department
Norman Furse, Revisor of Statutes
Michael Corrigan, Assistant Revisor of Statutes
Judy Bromich, Administrative Analyst
Mary Shaw, Committee Secretary

Conferees appearing before the committee:

Barbara Tombs, Executive Director, Kansas Sentencing Commission

Others attending: See attached list

Chairman Morris referred the following bill to the KPERS Issues subcommittee:

HB 2014—Retirement annuities for members of legislature for past service

The Chairman welcomed Barbara Tombs, Executive Director, Kansas Sentencing Commission, who presented an overview of FY 2003 Adult Inmate Prison Population Projections ([Attachment 1](#)). Ms. Tombs distributed information regarding Sentencing Range - Non Drug Offenses ([Attachment 2](#)). Ms. Tombs expressed concern regarding prison population. She mentioned that even if there was a decrease in rate of admissions from here on over the next five years – will still run out of prison beds because the length of stays are so long. Decrease in admissions would not solve the problem. Ms. Tombs explained regarding projections the stacking is coming into effect. Chairman Morris mentioned that the bottom line is that we are looking at significant numbers in prison population increasing over the next several years. Ms. Tombs mentioned that long term planning is necessary. Committee questions and discussion followed.

In her testimony, Ms. Tombs addressed Proposed Alternative Sentencing Policy for Drug Offenders ([Attachment 3](#)). Committee questions and discussion followed. Chairman Morris mentioned that this is an example where the committee has to consider the financial impact with very difficult decision.

Copies of a letter were distributed to the committee from Janis DeBoer, Acting Secretary, Kansas Department on Aging, in response to committee questions ([Attachment 4](#)).

The meeting adjourned at 11:50 a.m. The next meeting is scheduled for February 19, 2003.