

MINUTES OF THE SENATE WAYS & MEANS COMMITTEE.

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Dave Kerr at 11:00 a.m. on March 14, 2000 in Room 123-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except:

Committee staff present: Alan Conroy, Chief Fiscal Analyst, KLRD
Rae Anne Davis, KS Legislative Research Department
Debra Hollon, KS Legislative Research Department
Norman Furse, Revisor of Statutes
Michael Corrigan, Asst. Revisor of Statutes
Judy Bromich, Administrative Assistant to the Chairman
Ronda Miller, Committee Secretary

Conferees appearing before the committee:

Others attending: See attached list

It was moved by Senator Jordan and seconded by Senator Gilstrap that the minutes of the March 8th and March 13th meetings be approved. The motion carried on a voice vote.

Senator Salisbury reviewed the FY 2001 subcommittee report on the **Kansas Department of Health and Environment** (Attachment 1). In discussing the subcommittee's recommendation to redirect \$3 million of tobacco settlement proceeds from the Kansas Health Foundation, Senator Salisbury stated that

- a representative from the Department of Health and Environment had indicated to the subcommittee that failure to provide the state match would not impact efforts of the Kansas Health Foundation
- the subcommittee asked the Department to develop standards along the lines of the Olds Model
- home visitation is not incompatible with the grants made to increase local capacity to meet health needs of children

Concern was expressed that the purpose of the newly created Childrens' Cabinet is to analyze the effectiveness of programs and make recommendations, and the subcommittee's recommendation might be "getting ahead" of the Cabinet and negating their usefulness. Senator Jordan moved, Senator Salisbury seconded, that item 9 of the subcommittee report be amended to clarify that this is a one year appropriation with the expectation that the Childrens' Cabinet review the effectiveness of the Olds model. The motion to amend the report carried on a voice vote.

In response to a question regarding the subcommittee's comments on the consolidation of the Department's Laboratories with those of the Department of Agriculture, Secretary Graeber, Department of Health & Environment, stated that he believed there were a number of factors the Performance Review Board had not considered when evaluating the consolidation, and he brought those concerns to the attention of the subcommittee. Senator Ranson stated that she would ask for more specific information.

It was moved by Senator Salisbury and seconded by Senator Petty that the subcommittee report as amended be adopted. The motion carried on a voice vote.

Senator Salisbury moved that bill draft 9rs 2418 as requested by the Health & Environment subcommittee be introduced. The motion was seconded by Senator Lawrence and carried on a voice vote.

Senator Salmans reviewed the FY 2001 subcommittee report on the **Kansas Commission on Veterans' Affairs (including the Soldiers' and Veterans' Homes)** (Attachment 2). Senator Salisbury commented that the state cemeteries were to be at no cost to the state except for maintenance. Executive Director Wages stated that planning dollars are needed as part of the federal process, but those will be reimbursed

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to the state.

Members expressed concern about the potential shortfall of \$500,000 in operating expenditures for this agency (item 3). The Executive Director stated that there were numerous unanticipated repairs which added to the cost of the Winfield Veterans' Home. The agency has been advised that in order to recover funds associated with those additional projects, the agency must have exceeded costs of \$400,000. The Director stated that he believes that expenditures will exceed that amount and will submit a grant to recover the costs.

Senator Salmans moved, Senator Feleciano seconded, that the FY 2001 subcommittee report on the Kansas Commission on Veterans' Affairs be adopted. The motion carried on a voice vote.

The FY 2001 subcommittee report on the **Homestead Property Tax Refunds** (Attachment 3) was presented by Senator Salmans. There were no questions.

Senator Jordan reviewed the FY 2001 subcommittee report on the **Kansas Department of Human Resources** (Attachment 4). Chairman Kerr acknowledged concern about the Kansas Workforce Investment Partnership (KWIP), and inquired whether recommendations 4 & 5 would provide reasonable flexibility so that the money can be delegated to effective programs. Senator Jordan stated that that is the intent of the recommendation, and added that local boards will be able to prioritize and address their regional needs. He commented that the Vice-Chair of Senate Ways & Means is on the Workforce Development Task Force and it was the subcommittee's hope that the Task Force would ensure good coordination of the programs. Senator Ranson expressed concern that the membership list of KWIP did not include all the agencies that had training programs. A representative from the Department of Human Resources stated that the agency would investigate that issue.

Senator Salisbury noted that a technical amendment should be made to item 1 to clarify that the \$30,000 should come from internal resources.

It was moved by Senator Jordan and seconded by Senator Petty that the subcommittee report be technically amended as suggested by Senator Salisbury and that the report as amended be adopted. The motion carried on a voice vote.

Senator Feleciano moved, Senator Petty seconded, that bill draft 9rs 2375 be introduced. The motion carried on a voice vote.

The Chairman adjourned the meeting at 12:15 p.m. The next meeting is scheduled for March 15, 2000.