

MINUTES OF THE SENATE ELECTIONS AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT.

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Barbara P. Allen at 1:30 p.m. on January 11, 2001 in Room 245-N of the Capitol.

All members were present except:      Senator Huelskamp - excused  
   Senator Schmidt - excused

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

Conferees appearing before the committee:      Brad Bryant, Deputy Assistant Secretary of State  
   Linda DeCoursey, Kansas Insurance Department

Others attending:                      See attached list.

Linda DeCoursey appeared on behalf of Kathleen Sebelius, Insurance Commissioner, requesting the introduction of proposed legislation regarding political contributions to the Insurance Commissioner or to candidates for that office (Attachment 1). Senator Gooch moved to recommend the introduction of a bill dealing with political contributions to the Insurance Commissioner seconded by Senator Gilstrap. The motion carried

Brad Bryant, Deputy Assistant Secretary of State, gave a briefing on election administration, covering there are four concepts; ballots, recounts, contests and voting systems. On ballots, Kansas has no punch cards, no certification, no grace periods for ballots to come in after election day, and no postmarked locations, Kansas counts all ballots that are cast legally and timely and a recount is one of two ways to repeat the procedure that gave the original count of totals. The recount statute in Kansas works well. Contests; a candidate who thinks the race was wrong, issues needed to be resolved along with the recount of the ballots, illegal votes, legal votes were cast but not counted, errors or fraud in tabulating or bribery in election are grounds for contesting an election. The fourth concept is the procedure for certification of voting equipment(Attachment 2).

The meeting was adjourned at 2:25 p.m.

The next meeting is scheduled for January 16, 2001