

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE ELECTIONS AND GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATION COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Mike Burgess at 3:30 P.M. on January 25, 2008 in Room 784 of the DSOB.

All members were present except; Rep. Peterson - Excused

Committee staff present:

Martha Dorsey, Legislative Research Department
Cindy Lash, Legislative Research Department
Dianne Rosell, Assistant Revisor
Mike Heim, Revisor of Statutes Office
Piper Cameron, Committee Assistant

Conferees appearing before the committee:

Rep. David Crum
Richard Maginot, Soldier Township Fire Dept.
Forrest Walter, Mission Township
Al Ward, Mission Township
Brad Bryant, Sec. Of State; Elections Division
Carol Williams, Government Ethics Commission

Others attending:

See attached list.

The Chairman called for bill introductions:

There were no requests for bill introductions.

HB 2628- An act concerning townships; amending K.S.A 80-109 and repealing the existing section. Townships; sale of personal property. Sales of property over \$500.

Brad Bryant, Deputy Assistant Secretary of State, requested introduction for **HB 2683; Continuity of Congress- This bill would establish a procedure for emergency elections to fill vacancies in the office of U.S. Representative in circumstances resulting in 100 or more vacancies in the House.**

Brad Bryant Deputy Assistant Secretary of State requested introduction for ; **Help America Vote Act, loans to counties- This bill would authorize the Secretary of State to make low-interest loans to counties using remaining funds from the federal Help America Vote Act appropriations.**

Rep. Burgess requests trailer bill for statewide funds from Federal Help America Vote Act.

The Chairman opened the public hearing.

Rep. David Crum, testified in support of **HB 2628**. Kansas townships currently have three appointed officials. The sale is to be posted for no shorter than three weeks. Under the new provision the township board must be in unanimous agreement to sell the property (this prevents one board member from unilaterally selling property to a relative or neighbor), the sale must be announced in the newspaper each week for three weeks (this makes the residents of the township aware that the property is available), and the property goes to the highest bidder which helps insure the township receives the best price for the property. Passing of bill would benefit the township board and the residents of the townships. See Attachment 1.

Gary Gibson, Rock Creek township, testified in favor of **HB 2628**. Mr. Gibson is proposing that any personal property being sold, be posted for three weeks. The road and the maintenance is a primary concern of the people of Rock Creek. The amendment is a necessity of the correct operations of township. See Attachment 2.

CONTINUATION SHEET

MINUTES OF THE House Elections and Governmental Organization Committee at 3:30 P.M. on January 25, 2008 in Room 784 of the DSOB.

Richard Maginot, Fire Chief, Soldier Township. Opposes **HB 2628**, because of the unanimous vote. He is requesting a majority vote. Also, anytime they have surplus property, they advertise and take the highest bidder, and selling some personal property on E-Bay. Mr. Maginot, is requesting flexibility on the bill. The Board of Soldier Township requires that any surplus personal property be identified and presented to the Board for review. The Board then votes on the procedure for the disposal of any item with a majority vote required to sell or otherwise dispose of the property. To require a unanimous vote is unreasonable.. See Attachment 3.

Forrest Walter, Fire Chief Mission Fire Dept. Testifies against **HB 2628**. He believes for it to be a personnel problem, and it gives no penalty for sales of personal property. Three weeks is no timely, effective manner in which to bid on an item or piece of equipment. See Attachment 4.

Al Ward testifies against the bill, he feels that all townships are being penalized for just a few who have ruined sales of personal property. No written Testimony Provided.

The Chairman opened the hearing for public questions.

Martha Dorsey briefs committee on bills that have been passed.

Being no other conferees the Chairman closed the public hearing. The meeting was adjourned at 4:35 p.m. The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, January 30, 2008