

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 25, 2001 in Room 245-N of the Capitol.

All members were present except:

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: Ken Grotewiel, Director, Consumer Assistant Division,
 Insurance Department
 Larry McGill, Executive Vice President, Kansas Association of
 Insurance Agents

Others attending: See attached list.

Hearing on: **SB 28 - concerning election campaign finance; prohibiting contributions in elections for the office of insurance commissioner from certain entities**

Ken Grotewiel, Director of the Consumer Assistance Division for the Kansas Insurance Department, appeared on behalf of Insurance Commissioner Kathleen Sebelius to ask for support of **SB 28**. This bill prohibits individuals and companies regulated by the Kansas Insurance Department from making political contributions to the Insurance Commissioner or to candidates for that office (Attachment 1).

Larry McGill, Executive Vice President, Kansas Association of Insurance Agents testified in opposition to **SB 28**. He stated it unfairly takes the right to participate openly in the electoral process from one group of individuals because of arbitrary criteria that leaves other stake holders unaffected (Attachment 2).

There being no others wishing to testify on **SB 28** the hearing was closed.

The opinion, requested by the Chair, from the Kansas Governmental Ethics Commission on the lobbyist reporting law was distributed to the Committee (Attachment 3).

The meeting adjourned at 2:30 p.m.

The next meeting is scheduled for January 30, 2001.