

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATION AND ELECTIONS COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Jene Vickrey at 3:30 P.M. on March 17, 2005 in Room 519-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except:

Representative Lynne Oharah- excused
Representative Jim Yonally- excused

Committee staff present:

Mike Heim, Legislative Research Department
Martha Dorsey, Legislative Research Department
Norm Furse, Revisor of Statutes Office
Theresa Kiernan, Revisor of Statutes Office
Maureen Stinson, Committee Secretary

Conferees appearing before the committee:

Rep. Ray Merrick
Brian Driskell
Scott Schneider, City of Wichita
Sen. Dennis Wilson
Chuck Henry, KCTA, Unified government of Wyandotte County/Kansas City, Kansas
Amy Meeker-Berg, Johnson County
John Bartelac, Johnson County

Others attending:

See attached list.

Chairman Vickrey opened the hearing on:

HB 2484 Vendors and transient merchant licenses and fees, exceptions

Rep. Merrick testified in support of the bill. No written testimony was provided.

Brian Driskell testified in support of the bill (Attachment 1). He explained that he has attempted many times to purchase a license in order to sell sweet corn in the City of Overland Park and that the city has refused to sell him a license.

Scott Schneider, City of Wichita, testified in opposition to the bill (Attachment 2). He said that if the bill passes, the City of Wichita would need to amend Section 3.95.030(a)(11) of the city code.

Chairman Vickrey closed the hearing on **HB 2484**.

Chairman Vickrey opened the hearing on:

SB 133 Homestead property tax credits; review of claim by county clerk

Sen. Dennis Wilson testified in support of the bill (Attachment 3). He said that under current law, if a taxpayer meets the requirements of a homestead property tax credit, the State of Kansas requires many of our taxpayers to physically show up at the county courthouse to fill out or initiate paper work with both the office of the County Clerk and County Treasurer during the time of the year when the weather can be very difficult to negotiate for many who are frail or physically challenged.

Chuck Henry, Unified Government of Wyandotte County/Kansas City, Kansas, testified in support of the bill (Attachment 4). He said the cost to the state to develop and e-mail electronic files is offset by reduced printing and mailing costs of sending out eligibility letters.

Amy Meeker-Berg testified in support of the bill (Attachment 5) on behalf of the Johnson County Treasurer's Office. She said the measure will improve service delivery by automating and streamlining government operations, while eliminating the excessive demands made on Homestead claimants.

John Bartolac testified in support of the bill (Attachment 6) on behalf of the Johnson County Department of Records and Tax Administration (combined offices of County Clerk and Register of Deeds). He said by providing an electronic file of eligible taxpayers to each County, the verification process conducted by the Clerk's office could be completed at one time; tax billing calculation errors would be eliminated and adjusted bills could be mailed in more timely fashion; and the payment return reporting process would be immediate and complete.

Chairman Vickrey closed the hearing on **SB 133**.

Rep. Sawyer made a motion to make technical amendments to SB 133. Rep. Lane seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Rep. Sawyer made a motion for the favorable passage of SB 133 as amended. Rep. F. Miller seconded the motion. Motion carried.

CONTINUATION SHEET

MINUTES OF THE House Governmental Organization and Elections Committee at 3:30 P.M. on March 17, 2005 in Room 519-S of the Capitol.

HB 2506 **Open meetings act applicable state agencies meeting as the subcabinet on natural resources**

Rep. Goico made a motion to adopt a balloon amendment relating to the Kansas Water Authority (Attachment 7). Rep. F. Miller seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Rep. Lane and Rep. Sawyer asked to be recorded as “no” votes.

Rep. Goico made a motion for the favorable passage of **HB 2506** as Amended. Rep. Beamer seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Rep. Lane and Rep. Sawyer asked to be recorded as “no” votes.

SB 24 **Confidential security records or information, not subject to subpoena or discovery**

Rep. Tom Holland made a motion to remove the contents of **SB 24** and to insert the contents of HB 2229 and to also include a proposed floor amendment to **HB 2229** made by Rep. Melody Miller during floor debate. Rep. Lane seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Rep. Tom Holland made a motion for the favorable passage of **SB 24** as Amended, and that because of the substantial changes to the bill, the bill be made a substitute bill. Rep. Huebert seconded the motion. The motion carried.

SB 142 Elections; security of advance voting ballots

Rep. Sawyer made a motion to request an interim study on this topic. Rep. Lane seconded the motion.

Rep. F. Miller made a substitute motion to amend the bill to remove Sections 3 and 4 and to retain Sections 1 and 2. Rep. Goico seconded the motion. Motion Carried.

Rep. Otto made a motion for the favorable passage of SB 142 as Amended. Rep. Beamer seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Rep. Lane and Rep. Sawyer asked to be recorded as “no” votes.

HB 2470 **Manner of collection of clean drinking water fee from consumers**

Rep. Goico made a motion to remove the contents of **HB 2470** and to insert the contents of **HB 2093** and **HB 2094**. Rep. Lane seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Rep. Goico made a motion for the favorable passage of **HB 2470** as Amended, and that because of the substantial changes to the bill, the bill be made a substitute bill. Rep. Lane seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Chairman Vickrey adjourned the meeting.

The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, March 22, 2005.