

MINUTES OF THE SENATE AGRICULTURE COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Mark Taddiken at 8:30 A.M. on March, 16, 2005 in Room 423-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except:

Steve Morris- excused

Committee staff present:

Raney Gilliland, Kansas Legislative Research

Lisa Montgomery, Office of Revisor of Statues

Jacqui Jones, Committee Secretary

Conferees appearing before the committee:

Proponents:

Constantine Cotsoradis, Assistant Secretary, Kansas Department of Agriculture (KDA)

Duane Simpson, Dir. Govt. Relations , Kansas Agribusiness Retailers Association (KARA)

Brad Harrelson, State Policy Director, Governmental Relations, Kansas Farm Bureau (KFB)

Chris Wilson, Kansas Agricultural Aviation Association (KAAA)

Leslie Kaufman, Government Relations Director, Kansas Cooperative Counsel (KCC)

Others attending:

See attached list.

Chairman Taddiken advised the Committee that before hearing new bills today, they would be working bills previously heard.

**SB-265 - Requiring a licensed professional engineer to prepare plans and specifications for construction or expansion of confined feeding facilities.**

Senator Taddiken moved, seconded by Senator Pine that the following language be adopted.:

A conceptual amendment was made to Section 1 (m) to make all plans and specifications submitted to the department after July 1, 2005, for construction or expansion of confined feeding facilities of more than 1,000 animal units to be prepared by a licensed professional engineer. For facilities of less than 1,000 animal units the continue current policy will continue.

A substitute motion was made by Senator Lee, seconded by Senator Huelskamp that the number of animal units be changed to 3,725. The motion passed.

The Chairman advised the Committee that the new language will be written by the Office of the Revisor of Statutes and it will be available when working the bill Monday, March 21.

**SB-288 - Kansas pet animal act, rules and regulations, fees and limitation on expenditures.**

Senator Francisco moved to strike Section 1 of the bill which would have expanded regulatory authority for the Animal Health Department. Senator Lee seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Senator Taddiken offered a motion amending language on page 2, line 17 to strike ” \$100" and insert “\$50" and re-insert “more than 45 days”. Senator Lee seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Senator Schmidt moved to strike Section 3 from the bill. Senator Bruce seconded. Motion carried.

Senator Lee moved that the bill be moved out of Committee favorably, as amended. Senator Pine seconded the motion. Motion carried.

CONTINUATION SHEET

MINUTES OF THE Senate Agriculture Committee at 8:30 A.M. on March, 16, 2005 in Room 423-S of the Capitol.

**HB-2341 - Uniformity and jurisdiction of Kansas fertilizer law.**

Chairman Taddiken then invited Constantine Cotsoradis, (KDA), to testify in support of **HB-2341**.

The Assistant Secretary remarked that this legislation would ensure that fertilizer laws, rules and regulations would remain uniform throughout Kansas (Attachment 1).

Duane Simpson, KARA, testified in favor of **HB-2341** stating that the bill would make Kansas fertilizer law uniform throughout the state. He said that state and federal agencies have the necessary resources to base regulations on science (Attachment 2).

Leslie Kaufman, KCC, testified in support of **HB-2341** stating that the bill places the regulation of fertilizer in the hands of the state, thus allowing uniformity across Kansas. Regulation should be based upon sound scientific principles and applied evenly to dealers, handlers and end-users (Attachment 3).

Chris Wilson, KAAA, testified in support of **HB-2341** stating that fertilizer, as well as pesticides, should only be regulated at the state level, as opposed to the local level, to provide for consistent, science-based regulations (Attachment 4).

Brad Harrelson, KFB, submitted written testimony in support of **HB-2341**. He stated that no governmental agency should have the authority to ban the manufacture or use of any agricultural product unless there is conclusive, scientific proof that it is detrimental to society. KFB believes that this legislation merely provides the same uniformity for fertilizer as currently exists in statute for agricultural chemicals (Attachment 5).

The hearings on **HB-2341** were closed.

**HB-2280 - Sampling, civil penalties for violations of law and increased fees for grain warehouses.**

Chairman Taddiken invited Constantine Cotsoradis (KDA) to testify in support of **HB-2280**. He remarked that the bill contains new, clear statutory authority for the grain warehouse program to conduct quality inspections (Attachment 6-1).

Chairman Taddiken continued the hearing and adjourned the meeting at 9:30 a.m.

The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, March 21, 2005.