

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 January 13, 2005 in Room 519-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except:

- Representative Mario Goico- excused
- Representative Dale Swenson- excused
- Representative Melody Miller- excused
- Representative Tom Sawyer- excused

Committee staff present:

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

Conferees appearing before the committee:

- Rep. Larry Powell

Others attending:

- See attached list.

Bill Introductions

Tom Finney, representing the Kansas Advisory Council on Intergovernmental Relations (KACIR), requested two pieces of legislation to be considered as committee bills (Attachment 1). They are as follows:

- Legislation which would enable cities and counties to explore the possibility of consolidation.
- Change to K.S.A. 18-202 to make it feasible for the citizens of two or more counties to hold an election regarding their boundaries.

Without objection, the requests will be adopted as committee bills.

Chairman Vickrey opened the hearing on:

HB 2007 **Horsethief reservoir benefit district**

Rep. Larry Powell testified in support of **HB 2007** (Attachment 2). He said the bill would amend legislation, adopted last session, which required a mail-ballot election to impose a sales tax for the newly created Horsethief Reservoir Benefit District. He explained that a mail-ballot election would be an expense of \$50,000.00 to \$60,000.00 to the small counties involved. **HB 2007** would require the sales tax election be held at any general election, at a special election called for that purpose, or via a mail-ballot election as provided for in state law.

Written testimony was received from Robin Jennison on behalf of the Pawnee Watershed District (Attachment 3). The testimony references HB 2582, the bill from the 2003/2004 session which created the Horsethief reservoir benefit.

Chairman Vickrey closed the hearing on **HB 2007**.

HB 2007 **Horsethief reservoir benefit district**

Rep. Yonally made a motion for the favorable passage of **HB 2007**. Rep. Lane seconded the motion. The motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:40 p.m.

The next meeting is scheduled for January 18, 2005.