

MINUTES OF THE SENATE COMMERCE COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Karin Brownlee at 8:37 A.M. on March 22, 2005 in Room 123-S of the Capitol.

All members were present.

Committee staff present:

Kathie Sparks, Kansas Legislative Research Department

Helen Pedigo, Revisor of Statutes

Jackie Lunn, Committee Secretary

Conferees appearing before the committee:

Others attending:

See attached list.

Chairperson Brownlee opened the meeting by announcing the Committee would take action on **HB 2299**. She stated she had an amendment she would like to present to the Committee. (Attachment 1) Chairperson Brownlee explained her amendment which is a new Section 2. Her amendment would completely reorganize the Workers Compensation Advisory Council. The council would be composed of the Director of Workers Compensation or the Director's designee from the Division of Workers Compensation who shall serve ex officio and seven members who shall be appointed in accordance with Section 2 of the bill. Each member of the Advisory Council shall serve at the pleasure of the Legislature. The provisions of this act regarding the Advisory Council shall expire on July 1, 2007.

The Chair recognized Senator Barone for his comments on the amendment presented by Chairperson Brownlee. Senator Barone has concerns with the amendment being such a dramatic change and how it would impact many people in the state. He made reference to the fact that the number for a quorum had already been changed in a previous bill in the Committee. He feels that the Secretary of Labor is trying to do things to bring the council together.

Chairperson Brownlee recognized Senator Schodorf. Senator Schodorf is in favor of this amendment and thinks is a very good idea and something needs to be done to improve the council.

Chairperson Brownlee recognized Senator Jordan. Senator Jordan stated he agreed with Senator Schodorf. The council needs improvement. He stated the Committee could not get any recommendations on work comp bills because they don't have a quorum and have to cancel the meetings.

Chairperson Brownlee recognized Senator Reitz. Senator Reitz also thinks the amendment is a good idea.

Chairperson Brownlee recognized Senator Kelly. Senator Kelly stated she would like to slow down and agrees with Senator Barone that it will be a major change. She stated she is not necessarily opposed to the bill but would like to have more time to hear all sides.

Senator Jordan moved to accept the amendment. Senator Schodorf seconded. Senator Brownlee stated there was a division and asked for a show of hands. Motion carried.

Senator Barone made a substitute motion to put the bill in an interim committee and report back next session. Senator Kelly seconded. Motion did not carry.

Senator Schodorf moved the bill out favorably as amended. Senator Jordan seconded. Motion carried with Senator Barone and Senator Kelly voting no.

Chairperson Brownlee recognized Senator Wysong who made the statement he had passed on all these votes because he doesn't feel he has been on the Committee long enough.

Chairperson Brownlee recognized Senator Barone. He stated he felt the Committee should have access to these amendments before they are presented to the Committee.

Chairperson Brownlee turned the meeting over to Chairperson Jordan. Chairperson Jordan asked Helen

CONTINUATION SHEET

MINUTES OF THE Senate Commerce Committee at 8:30 A.M. on March 22, 2005 in Room 123-S of the Capitol.

Pedigo to explain **SUB HB 2012** and the balloon. Ms. Pedigo stated **SUB HB 2012** would amend sales tax and revenue (STAR) bonds and tax incremental financing bond law. (Attachment 2) Ms. Pedigo reviewed the balloon to **SUB HB 2012** with an explanation on each one and some discussion with the Committee. (Attachment 3)

Upon the conclusion of the explanation of the amendments to **SUB HB 2012** Senator Schodorf moved the balloon for **HB2012** into **HB 2144**. Seconded by Senator Emler. Motion Carried.

Senator Barone moved to take the cap on STAR Bonds for Wyandotte County from \$310 million to \$305 million, Page 12, line 35. Seconded by Senator Wysong. Motion carried.

A discussion continued with the Committee regarding the cap on the bonds with the cities having the option to issue their own bonds to finish up the project. The discussion continued with the amount of the bonds issued being \$284 million and the limit being \$305 million with \$20 million left.

Chairperson Jordan stated the Committee will work more on this bill on another day due to the time.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:30 a.m with the next meeting scheduled for Wednesday, March 23, 2005 at 8:30 a.m. in room 123S.